

61st National FFA Convention PROCEEDINGS

NOVEMBER 10 - 12, 1988

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI



Agriculture's Leading Edge



The Best and The Brightest

They came from across the land, eager for the spectacle that lay before them. Over 23,000 FFA members, teachers, alumni, parents and friends traveled to Kansas City for an experience rich with inspiration, education and emotion.

The Secret of Our Success

Winning It All

For those who hear their names called, the convention provides a magical experience that lives forever in memory. Gene Starkey (right) of Paris, Ohio, saw years of hard work pay off during Friday night's proficiency pageant when he was named national Soil and Water Management winner. (Photo by Mike Wilson)



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An Eye on the Future

Official convention delegates voted enthusiastically for 18 of 19 constitutional amendments, among them a much-discussed name change. Larry Case (left) discusses the ramifications of the approved wording, "National FFA Organization" and "agricultural education."



United We Stand

Delegates (above) celebrated FFA's new direction. From left, Ann Powalski, Alaska; Kris Williams, Minn.; Shawn Oliver, Miss.; Rudolph Pietrs, Virgin Islands; Heather Dunham, N.C.; and Joshua Cook, Calif.



Thanks, Roger Heath

This year Roger Heath put away his baton as director of the National FFA Band. Heath pulled off the miraculous by bringing together young musicians from across the country and blending their sounds into some of the finest music offered up at the past 20 national FFA conventions.



Rick Metzger, outgoing Alumni president (above), and Josiah Phelps, Alumni Council member, served as ring men for a spirited alumni auction. In its third year, the 360 donated items brought \$26,000 in support of the FFA and the alumni. (Photo by Sam Harrel)

Mark Jenkins (right) of Milan, Tenn., explodes with excitement as he is announced winner of the Agricultural Electrification Proficiency award at the Friday night pageant. (Photo by Mike Wilson)

A convention-goer (below), caught up in the excitement of the National Agricultural Career Show, shares a laugh with new-found friends from across the country. (Photo by Sam Harrel)





Hundreds of FFA members were interviewed by a large contingent of media covering the convention and carrying news of the FFA to families and friends back home. Kurt Aumann (above) of Nokomis, Ill., discusses his proficiency award with Sandy Heng of RFD/TV. (Photo by Molly Wilson)

Joe Downey (right), 1988 National FFA Foundation Chairman and vice president of Dow Chemical Company announces record-setting support of \$3.3 million generated for the FFA by more than 887 members of the Foundation. (Photo by Orlin Wagner)

Mike Miller of RFD/TV and David Pearce, former national FFA vice president, co-anchored the satellite television broadcast of the convention, bringing over 17 hours of live coverage to millions of American homes. (Photo by Sam Harrel)



American Farmers

FFA's Highest Degree

ALABAMA: Jerry P. Aycock, Russellville; Mark Blackwell, Collinsville; Byron S. Brinell, Russellville; Steven W. Bryner, Clayton; Briel S. Dalrymple, Enterprise; Noel Danner, Arlton; Tracy D. Robbins, Bryant; Alicia M. Edson, Dozier; Joseph T. Ellis, Coffee Springs; Jimmy C. Fryer, Louisville; Gregory B. Gray, Louisville; Will G. Hankey Jr., Gulfman; Patrick R. Holland, Rogersville; Peter D. James, Russellville; Aaron A. Knight, Clio; Jimmy Knight, Clio; Andrew S. Lewis, Ozark; Wendell L. McDaniel Jr., Graham; William T. McKenzie, Fairhope; Danny Miller, Collinsville; Eddy L. Outlaw, Arlton; Richard L. Pinyan, Ozark; Samuel K. Pfaff, Abbeville; Jerald K. Paule, Trinity; David E. Rul III, Athens; Greg Smith, Andalusia; L. Denise Smith, Arab; Thomas E. Spencer, Auburn; Kevin D. Turner, Chunchula; Jerry D. Wales, Elkmont

ARIZONA: Michael D. Armbruster, Tucson; Tami M. Austin, Mesa; Frankie J. Rul, David Ausa, Yuma; Billy E. Kennedy, Rul; Leigh Loughead, Buckeye; Wayne A. Mansive, Mesa; Mark A. Mariani, Wellton; Kenneth E. Narramore, Palo Verde; Mike Pope, Wilcox; William C. Shipp, Yuma; Kody L. Taylor, Douglas

ARKANSAS: Dennis L. Cupp, Paragould; Allen L. Fulton, Cove; Gary L. Gray, Booneville; Ray Halbert Jr., Palestine; Jack Mays Jr., Marshall; Bobby B. Mills, Harrisburg; Leslie A. Morelock, Fayetteville; Duane A. Swofford, Berryville; Eugene E. Westerman, Lonsdale; Dwight E. Williams, Fayetteville; Dwight Wynn, Fayetteville

CALIFORNIA: Dennis K. Albani, Elk Grove; Kathleen M. Almond, Rio Oaks; Tamara Barnes, Kingsburg; Mark Barroso, Le Grand; Barbara Baxter, Merced; Timothy J. Beck, Hughsan; David J. Bettencourt, Lugo; Mike Bettencourt, Visalia; Dennis Bettencourt, Visalia; Walter B. Binns III, Quartz Hill; Thomas P. Boyes, Chico; Dona M. Casale, Denair; Jack Chapman Jr., Le Grand; Timothy P. Cockburn, Visalia; Dan Costa, Lugo; Mario K. Flores, Chowchilla; Emily Flores, Chowchilla; Guillermo Guerra, Santa Maria; John R. Hamada, Kingsburg; Greg Hepler, Reason City; Butch Hepler, Reason City; Janet D. Holman, Santa Rosa; Tammy K. Isaacs, Santa Rosa; Michael P. Johnson, Kingsburg; Kimberly A. Joramo, Three Rivers; Richard Kilgore III, Le Grand; Larry Kilgore, Le Grand; Arnold J. King, Petaluma; Craig D. Long, Live Oak; Lisa A. Lungren, Kingsburg; Brian R. Miller, Tehachapi; Max Olivera, Turlock; Jim Oradine, San Ardo; Brian M. Pacheco, Kerman; Dennis Pecarovich, Madera; Randi Ray,

Chowchilla; Brian Reineke, Merced; Troy Rinkenberg, Alwales; Michelle A. Ross, Stevenson; Mike Schmor, Chowchilla; Emmett F. Schulz, Exeter; Sandra L. Silveira, Merced; Sarah L. Silveira, Merced; Dennis Silvestre, Visalia; Timothy M. Souza, Tulare; Russell S. Switzer, Visalia; Dina M. Tesconi, Santa Rosa; Joan C. Webster, Fort Jones; Lessa A. Wild, Midpines

COLORADO: JoAnna D. Baker, Longmont; Donald D. Blake, Holly; William A. Carwin, Eaton; Don Cramer, Wray; Dustin Dorsey, Eaton; Tim Graznak, Platteville; William Harman, Otis; Gary D. Saffer, Arriba; Mark J. Speaker, Briggsdale; William F. Steel, Windsor; Brent Wertz, McClave

CONNECTICUT: Robin E. Burns, Andover; Donald S. Dzen Jr., Broad Brook

DELAWARE: Kenneth Warren, Kenton; Michael Wheatley, Smyrna

FLORIDA: Marshall T. Anderson, Haines City; Cynthia D. Bentley, Lakeland; Don M. Brewer, Wauchula; Melissa Busch, Tampa; Melanie M. Fisher, Tampa; Angela J. Gamble, Live Oak; Michael W. Garner, Groveland; Charles B. Hewett Jr., Waukegan; Karen L. Hurt, Branford; Jeffrey W. Johnson, Dover; Joel C. Phillips, Williston; Arthur L. Rogers, Orlando; Michael T. Simmons, Valrico; Bruce E. Thomas, Belk; Frank L. Waller, Lakeland; John C. Wilder, Micanopy; James E. Williams, Worthington Springs; Anthony J. Willis, Bushnell

GEORGIA: Bobby H. Barber Jr., Branbridge; Paul Barron, Camilla; Ramsey Bennett, Blackshear; Connie D. Burns, Springfield; Fred Bush, Sparks; Susan K. Claxton, Kile; Henry H. Garrard, Washington; Bryan Guber, Dawsonville; Stanley A. Hires, Adel; Tony R. King, Alma; W. Walter Nasworthy, Kille; Jim L. Newberry, Camilla; Shalee Noffingham, Monroe; Clint Oliver, Reidsville; Andrew T. Parker, Hartsfield; Richard C. Poss, Harlem; Ricky L. Powe, Cairo; Joseph E. Ridehorse Jr., Donaldsonville; Mike D. Roberts Jr., Sylvestre; Tim Summer, Sumner; Stephen B. Tinsley, Homerville; Fred W. Tison, Warwick; Tony Waller, Blackshear; Jamie W. Warriner, Donaldsonville; Raymond L. Wilcox, Adel

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IDAHO: Angie L. Beck, Burley; Leslie Davidson, Genesee; Shon M. Eddleman, Nampa; Thomas L. Friddle, Melba; David A. Frost, Meridian; Jeffrey K. Isom, Fruitland; William Lickley, Jerome; Kathryn Ritchie, Rexburg; Karl B. Ritchie, Rexburg; Deron K. Scott, Malad; **ILLINOIS:** Lori R. Aden, St. Joseph; Eric L. Bailey, Farina; Jennifer L. Behne, Carlinville; Charles C.

No other national convention ceremony drew as many parents, filled as many hearts with pride, nor recognized as many achievers as did the American Farmer Degree ceremony on Friday afternoon.

American Farmer candidates, 702 in number, were raised to FFA's highest degree after demonstrating to their state associations that they had fulfilled the requirements: at least \$5,000 earned and invested from an outstanding SOEP, exemplary leadership abilities, active membership in the FFA for at least 36 months, and successful completion of a high school agriculture program.

National FFA Foundation sponsors made possible the presentation of the coveted gold key, certificate and a cash award and recognition luncheon.

Benson, Cortland; Donald W. Berschneider, Franklin; Brian Bowers, Rader; Leroy B. Brinkman, Payson; Scott N. Davis, Georgetown; Patrick P. Deutsch, Sycamore; Keith R. Devlin, Bluffs; Kevin Drake, Clare; Ron Ehrler, DeKalb; Ingrid M. Erickson, DeKalb; Dean Huff, Brighton; Tony H. Lobdell, Lena; Gary L. McCormughay, Salem; Alvie J. McCormick, Ava; Kenneth Ramsay, Catonsville; Trevor K. Ridgely, Parkersburg; Thelma E. Schoonmaker, Sycamore; Bryan D. Seidel, Alamo; David L. Seven, St. Augustine; Michael L. Suess, Greenville; Michael Thompson, Ottawa; David L. Vandeburg, Sycamore

INDIANA: Jeffrey S. Bauman, Berne; Michael W. Beale, Deplis; Dennis Boggs, Warsaw; Scott E. Crouch,

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NEW JERSEY: Randall S. Arnold, New Egypt

NEW MEXICO: Beverly Bell, Corona; Michelle Leigh Frost, San Jose; Richard P. Maubry, Amistad; Jeffrey L. Moley, Dona Ana; Will Patison, Clovis; Steven Townsend, Roswell

American Farmers

FFA's Highest Degree

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RHODE ISLAND: Kevin Allsworth, N. Scituate; Matthew A. Knowlton, N. Scituate

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VERMONT: Thomas Bates, Enosburg Falls; Rene B. Roy, West Charleston

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David Hansen, Malaga; Ken Hilliker, Eatonville; Fred Jones, Eatonville; Kevin Kregger, Touchet; John A. Kummer, Othello; Lori L. Lancaster, Mesa; Dennis K. Lautenbach, Mesa; Eric M. Lund, Lind; Darin C. Michel, Othello; Devon D. Michel, Othello; Shannon M. Murdock, Walla Walla; Julio A. Omin, Chelan

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FFA Snapshots

"I'm very excited about receiving the American Farmer degree. It's been a life long dream. It's an honor in itself. "My parents have had five children go through the program, and I'm the first one to earn the degree. They came to convention and even brought my little sister."

Leigh Loughhead
American Farmer
Buckeye, Arizona



Stars Over America



Clint Oliver (left) was honored as 1988 Star Farmer of America and Christopher Bledsoe received the 1988 Star Agribusinessman award at the "Stars Over America" pageant. (Photo by Sam Harrel)

The Star Farmers and Star Agribusinessmen gathered for a reception following their awards program Thursday night. (Photo by Sam Harrel)



Cash awards sponsored by the Executive Sponsors of the National FFA Foundation

International Experience for National FFA Stars sponsored by Chrysler Corporation Fund and Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

There was anticipation you could have cut with a knife. A hush came over the auditorium and the six national officers gathered around the lectern to open the ceremonial envelope containing the names of the winners. For the eight regional stars, it was the moment for which they'd waited, and one which capped off years of hard work.

Then the words... "The Star Farmer of America is Clint Oliver and the Star Agribusinessman is Christopher Bledsoe." Wild applause followed, and the stars were rushed to the winner's platform.

Each regional star received \$1000 and the Star Agribusinessman and Star Farmer received an additional \$1000 each. All eight young achievers look forward to a week abroad on the International Experience Tour sponsored as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

Star Farmers

J. Richard Speer, 21
Blairs Mills, Pennsylvania
Eastern Region

Richard Speer began to build his agricultural enterprise at age eight when his father gave him his first dairy calf. Today, in partnership with his father, he manages two farms totaling 560 acres and milks 56 Holstein dairy cows. A former state FFA treasurer, Speer is a member of the Southern Huntingdon FFA Chapter.

Wesley Eldred, 22
Bellingham, Washington
Western Region

Wesley Eldred founded his dairy business in 1983 when he moved from an island off the Washington state coast to the mainland. Today, in partnership with his brother, he manages a herd of 123 dairy cows. Eldred, a former state proficiency award winner in diversified livestock, is a member of the Ferndale FFA Chapter.

Clint Oliver, 21
Reidsville, Georgia
Southern Region

Clint Oliver's purchase of a bred Duroc gilt during his freshman year of high school was the start of his agricultural enterprise. Today his operation has diversified to include 150 crossbred sows, 1700 feeder pigs, 25 feeder calves and 60 goats. This former Star Georgia Planter (Star Farmer) is a member of the Reidsville FFA Chapter.

Scott Schelkopf, 22
Strang, Nebraska
Central Region

After being sidelined by a spinal injury while playing high school football, Scott Schelkopf put increased emphasis on his agricultural enterprise. Today, using artificial insemination and conservation tillage, he manages over 300 breeding hogs and raises 600 acres of corn and soybeans. The Geneva FFA member is a senior majoring in general agriculture at the University of Nebraska.

Star Agribusinessmen

Christopher Bledsoe, 20
Eldon, Missouri
Central Region

Christopher Bledsoe began hauling livestock soon after he turned 16. As he saw his volume of business growing substantially, he formed a partnership with his brother. Together, they travel over 300,000 miles a year delivering livestock to and from the market. A former state proficiency award winner in specialty crops and agricultural sales and/or service, Bledsoe is a member of the Eldon FFA Chapter.

Steve Wilhelm, 21
Custer, Ohio
Eastern Region

Steve Wilhelm started working for Carter Lumber Company as a high school sophomore. He started as a yardman, loading and unloading trucks before being promoted to yard foreman and finally into sales. Wilhelm is looking to purchase his own lumber company in four or five years. The former chapter vice president is a member of the Bowling Green FFA Chapter.

Phillip Prater, 21
McMinnville, Tennessee
Southern Region

Phillip Prater was hired by Paul Holder Realty and Auction in 1983. His first duties included placing and retrieving auction signs, preparing items for sale and bookkeeping. Today he is a real estate affiliate broker and apprentice auctioneer. Prater plans to obtain his broker and auctioneer licenses soon. This former Tennessee Star Agribusinessman is a member of the Warren County FFA Chapter.

John Gosney, III, 20
Fairview, Oklahoma
Western Region

John Gosney purchased a used round baler to begin his agricultural enterprise. Today, this young entrepreneur has built a custom wheat harvesting business that covers five states. He dreams of expanding his business into California. Gosney, a former Oklahoma Star Agribusinessman, is a member of the Fairview FFA Chapter.

Computers in Agriculture

Chad Luthro of Prairie, Iowa, was named national winner of the Computers in Agriculture competition. One of five finalists, Luthro was recognized for his mastery of computer technology and for his expertise in using computer systems to maintain farm and family records.

Luthro and the other finalists were judged during an expense-paid trip to the National FFA Seminar on Computers in Agriculture held in Washington, D.C. this past summer. Each also received an expense-paid trip to Kansas City and a plaque.



Computers in Agriculture winner Chad Luthro, Prairie, Iowa, displays his award. (Photo by Michael Wilson.)

ALABAMA: Brian K. Blankenship, Scottsboro
ARIZONA: Craig Elliot, Elinda
ARKANSAS: Terry L. Horton, Lonoke
CALIFORNIA: Tammy Pilcher, Chowchilla
COLORADO: Janette Wright, Woodlin
CONNECTICUT: Jennifer Seymour, Northwestern Regional
DELAWARE: Chapter Eric Orlando, McKean
FLORIDA: Karen W. Strickland, Sarasota
GEORGIA: Chris Flanders, Swainsboro
ILLINOIS: John A. Stangel, Prairie Central
INDIANA: Darlene P. Lloyd, Southern Wells
IOWA: Chad Luthro, Prairie
KANSAS: Thomas O. Phillips, Mission Valley
KENTUCKY: Dow Rasdall, Warren East
MAINE: Kirk Cole, Limestone

MASSACHUSETTS: Philip Martin, Wachusett
MICHIGAN: Allan W. Tobey, Corunna
MINNESOTA: Darin Anderson, Marshall
MISSISSIPPI: Chris Shackelford, Pine Grove
MISSOURI: John W. Trimmer, Mound City
MONTANA: Mike McKamey, Cascade
NEBRASKA: Matthew Kruse, Seward
NEVADA: Bill Alexander, Ruby Mountain

NEW JERSEY: Robert Perentini, Newton
NEW MEXICO: Jamie Samples, Animas
NEW YORK: Brian Smith, Stockbridge Valley
NORTH CAROLINA: Huey H. Fann, Midway
NORTH DAKOTA: Mark Knudson, Divide County
OHIO: Ryan R. Kissell, Southwest Licking
OKLAHOMA: Danny J. Grelner, Kingfisher

Sponsored by Agri-Data Network, Ag Ed Network and FARMFUTURES Magazine

National Winner:
 Chad Luthro, Prairie, Iowa

1st Runner-Up:
 Tammy Pilcher, Chowchilla, California

2nd Runner-Up: Kirk Snaza, Roslyn, South Dakota

3rd Runner-Up: Ryan R. Kissell, Southwest Licking, Ohio

4th Runner-Up: Dow Rasdall, Warren East, Kentucky

OREGON: Craig Sauers, Yamhill-Carlton
PENNSYLVANIA: Darian Parkinson, W.B. Saul
SOUTH CAROLINA: Shane Bulman, Dorman
SOUTH DAKOTA: Kirk Snaza, Roslyn
UTAH: Robert A. Schultz, Mansfield
TEXAS: Russell Mills, Box Elder
VERMONT: Peter Sylvester, Enosburg
VIRGINIA: Richard L. Mills, Patrick Henry
WASHINGTON: Dianne M. Weber, Colton
WEST VIRGINIA: Saundra J. Harris, Ripley
WISCONSIN: Dan A. Spors, Melrose-Mindoro
WYOMING: Fritz Kenast, Glendo

National Safety Awards

Sponsored by Dow Chemical Company and Farm & Industrial Equipment Institute

An ever-present concern of the agricultural community, safety has long been stressed to FFA members. Once again, chapters were recognized for their exceptional efforts to improve the safety and health of their communities. Bronze, silver and gold awards were presented during the Thursday morning session.

GOLD

ARKANSAS: Hartford
COLORADO: Byers
ILLINOIS: Bluffs; Jerseyville; Sycamore; Warsaw; Winchester
INDIANA: Carroll; Fort Wayne
IOWA: Buffalo Center Bison; Cascade; Creston
KENTUCKY: Spencer County
MICHIGAN: Laingsburg
MINNESOTA: New Ulm

MISSOURI: Carthage; Stockton; Union
NEBRASKA: Leigh
NORTH DAKOTA: Williston
OHIO: Bowling Green; Greenville; West Muskingum
SOUTH DAKOTA: Bowdle; Roslyn
TENNESSEE: Bartlett
TEXAS: Ysleta
WASHINGTON: Elma; Yelm
WISCONSIN: Beaver Dam; Denmark; Granton; Green Bay West; Marshfield; Mauston; Monroe; New Auburn; Oregon; Pulaski

SILVER

ALABAMA: Crossville; J.R. Pittard; Jacksonville "Gold"; Russellville
ARKANSAS: Lavaca
COLORADO: Holyoke
FLORIDA: Lake Placid; Sarasota Vo-Ag
ILLINOIS: Aledo; Cambridge; DeKalb; Franklin Center; Spoon River Valley
INDIANA: Clinton Central; Prairie Heights; Southwest-Hanover
IOWA: Clarion; Estherville; Marengo; Vinton; Webster City
KENTUCKY: Lyon County
MARYLAND: Catocin; Clear Spring
MICHIGAN: Charlotie
MINNESOTA: Worthington
MISSOURI: Owensville

MONTANA: Cascade; Fairfield
NEBRASKA: Ravenna; Schuyler; Superior
NEW MEXICO: Goddard; Raton
NORTH CAROLINA: Forest Hills; North Iredell; North Lenoir; Sun Valley
NORTH DAKOTA: J.E. Eastgate; Laramore
OKLAHOMA: Billings
OREGON: Forest Grove; Illinois Valley
PENNSYLVANIA: Elizabethtown; Northern Lebanon
SOUTH CAROLINA: Green Sea Floyds; Pleasant Hill
SOUTH DAKOTA: Marion
TENNESSEE: Woodbury
TEXAS: Brownsboro
VIRGINIA: Broadway; Essex; Stonewall Jackson Junior
WASHINGTON: Winlock
WEST VIRGINIA: Marion County
WISCONSIN: Bloomer; De Pere; New Holstein

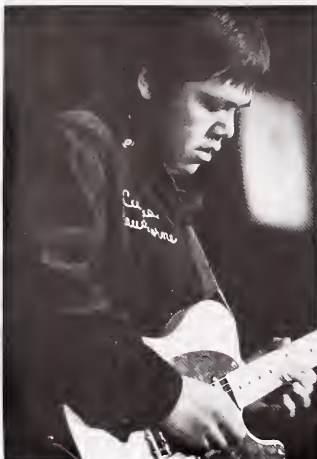
BRONZE

ALABAMA: Daleville; Robert C. Hatch; West Limestone
ARIZONA: Antelope; Peoria
CALIFORNIA: Mt. Whitney
CONNECTICUT: Housatonic Valley
DELAWARE: McKean; Millrod; Sussex Central
FLORIDA: Tale
GEORGIA: Cook; Newton County
IDAHO: Nampa; Notus

ILLINOIS: Cissna Park; Clinton; Mt. Carroll; Westmer
IOWA: Humboldt; North Polk
KANSAS: Centralia; Clay Center; Coffeyville; Mankato; Norton; Salina; Williamsburg; Winfield
LOUISIANA: Crowley; Oak Grove; South Lafourche
MAINE: Limestone
MINNESOTA: Marshall; Westbrook; Willmar
MISSISSIPPI: East Marion; Weir
MISSOURI: Memphis; Nevada
NEBRASKA: Norfolk; Wilcox
NEVADA: Diamond Mountain-Eureka; Ruby Mountain
NEW JERSEY: Monmouth County Vocational; Newton
NEW YORK: Chemung-Tioga Future Conv.; Greenwich
NORTH CAROLINA: East Montgomery; Southern Guilford; Southern Wayne
OHIO: River Valley; Vauseon
OKLAHOMA: Dustin
PENNSYLVANIA: Spud Growers
SOUTH CAROLINA: Loris
UTAH: Lehi
VIRGINIA: Carroll County; Jefferson Forest; Liberty Junior; Northampton; Park View; W.R. Legge
WASHINGTON: Sumner
WISCONSIN: Black Hawk; Boscobel; Green Bay East; Green Bay Preble
WYOMING: Douglas; Meeteetse

Entertainment

Talent participants presented an hour-long revue before the Thursday evening session.
(Photo by Michael Wilson)



The National FFA Chorus joyfully entertained the convention audience. (Photo by Sam Harrel)

National FFA Chorus

Sponsored by Ford Division—Ford Motor Company

Director: Stan Kingma
Assistant Director: Owen Robbins
Chaperone and Assistant:
Marilyn Kingma
Chaperone and Assistant:
Joe Kingma

ALABAMA: Marion Ows, Thomasville, Lisa Peavy, Uriah
CALIFORNIA: Tacy Johnston, Fairbrook
FLORIDA: Venus Campos, Lutz; JoAnna Forner, Live Oak
GEORGIA: Tony Thompson, Twin City
IOWA: Stacie Burgin, Webster City; Kory Kaalberg, West Liberty; Merlin Meyer, Rock Rapids; Jerry Meyers, West Liberty; Jeff Mohwinkel, Aplington; Andrew Streeter, Rockwell City; Leslie Wells, Milton
ILLINOIS: Teresa Benson, Courtland; Matt Hamston, Stockton; Andrew Maves, Peotone; Michele Panozzo, Chetane; Maria Poelmitz, Chicago; Jonathan Robert, Basco; Cameron Shields, Cissna Park; Julie Yanway, Mt. Vernon
INDIANA: Lestli Sell, Brook
KANSAS: Shawn Bergstrom, Courtland; Julie Chaney, Edna
KENTUCKY: Sara Frazer, Marion
LOUISIANA: Bryan Bonner, Oak Grove
MICHIGAN: Augustine Hermes, III, Pickford; Diane Stevens, Hamlet; Melissa Wagner, Leonidas
MINNESOTA: Steve Angus, Farmington; Melissa Belke, Morgan; Jeannette Hahn, Dawson; Bryce Henning, Brewster; Dawn Klug, Albany; Donna Koehl, Hancock; Paul Neumann, Ada; Gregory Speer, Herman; Gary Westman, Rush City; Becky Westrom, Elbow Lake
MISSOURI: Jellery Bond, Olean; Brian Davis,

Manorville; Cathy Elliott, Green Ridge; Jerry Gardner, Clarksdale; Angela Hamplon, California; Steven Hoover, Plattsburg; Arise Johnston, Rutledge; Walter Miller, Abela; Todd Needy, Green Ridge; Jesse Rohrbach, Jamestown; Scott Smith, Maysville; Jason Spahrton, Dawn; Shaun Sweiger, Weatherby; Brian Thomas, Eagleville; Tonia Zink, Windsor
NORTH CAROLINA: Ronald Coddlefer, Statesville; Robert Waller, Mooresville
NORTH DAKOTA: Britt Everson, Williston
NEBRASKA: Gina Alber, Blue Hill; Lisa Nygren, Mead; Daniel Peterson, Waverly
NEW YORK: Darlene Bailey, Greenwich; Sara Jane Bellinger, Howes Cave
OHIO: Alan Aicholz, Africa; Rick Bachman, Grand Rapids; Joseph Durkin, Mansfield; Bridget Kadel, Covington
OKLAHOMA: Heather Bennett, Marietta; Kelli Bouleiller, Yukon; Andrea Gosney, Fairview
OREGON: Kristi Bainbridge, Oakland; Conwin Boswell, Joseph; Emily Dolinger, Elgin; Gina Erhardt, Scappoose; Kelly Schlipperott, Sandy
PENNSYLVANIA: Brian Weaver, Berryburg
SOUTH CAROLINA: Lavonna Press, Holly Hill; Michael Young, Estill
SOUTH DAKOTA: Aaron Bauman, Harrisburg; Paul Fuller, Clark; Rick Jensen, Volga; Nicki Kost, Harrisburg
TENNESSEE: Jeremy Dill, Old Fort
TEXAS: Clay Edmonds, Anahuac; Kris Stephenson, Liberty
UTAH: Richard Harris, Richfield
WASHINGTON: Kaye Beckel, Ellensburg; Barbara Bonstein, Lynden; Amy Feigal, Wenatchee; Shawn Hanowell, Everson; Kendra Kinick, Kennewick; Chris Nobbs, Zillah; Rachel Osborn, Garfield
WISCONSIN: Randi Brooks, Omro; David Kuecker, Lake Geneva; Randy Mortimer, Wauwaton; Lena Smerchek, Columbus; Brian Thomson, Lena
WEST VIRGINIA: Georgeann Lightner, Alderson

National FFA Talent

Sponsored by Ford Division—Ford Motor Company

Director: Gary Maricle
Assistant: Suzette Bazen
Assistant: Joe Campillo

ALABAMA: Bill Williams, Jacksonville; Darin Williams, Jacksonville; Joel Wilder, Jacksonville; Stephen Johnson, Jacksonville; Robert McCluskey, Jr., Athens
ARIZONA: Arthur Coulter, Mineral Springs; John Bishop, Chandler
ARKANSAS: Melissa Daniels, Lake Hamilton
CALIFORNIA: Christine Ann Eoff, Kern Valley
IOWA: Kelly Miller, Rodgers; Georgia Stitzel, Knoxville; Brad Van Horn, Rockwell-Shelfield
ILLINOIS: Melissa Cowan, Chicago Ag Science; Christy Goewey, Chicago Ag Science; Maria Stennis, Chicago Ag Science; Holly Williams, Chicago Ag Science; Taryn Croft, Normal; Bryan Lunt, Iroquois West
MICHIGAN: Dan Wooden, Litchfield; Ralph Kimble, Litchfield; Mark Jacoby, USA
MINNESOTA: Christine Henning, Auron Lake; Oksabena Lakelield; Jeri Januszewski, Perham
MISSOURI: Kristi Chester, Couch; Denise Clark, Couch; Melissa Grooms, Couch; Sharla Reed, Couch; Karen Sue Cox, Buchanan; Rochelle Nelson, Van-Far R-1; Renee Olbricht,

Couch
MONTANA: J C Green, Plenty Coups; Matt Barker, Plenty Coups; Warren Smith, Plenty Coups; Chan Whimman, Plenty Coups; Marty Mitkus, Plenty Coups
NEVADA: Rhonda McCauley, Moapa Valley
NEW MEXICO: Curtis K. Hawthorne, Tonatchi High
NEW YORK: Becky Nolen, Belleville Henderson
NORTH CAROLINA: Perry Rape, Sun Valley
NORTH DAKOTA: David Mault, Garrison
OKLAHOMA: Amy Palmer, Glenice; Heather Stone, Jet-Nash
OHIO: Candi Fyffe, Preble Shawnee; Holly Long, Bowling Green; Jorene Straszheim, National Trail
TEXAS: Jason Blackman, Blum; Steve Gant, Blum; Leslie Kyle, Blum; David McPherson, Blum; Darren Rape, Blum; Marc Robinson, Blum; Keith Booth, Johnson City; Andy Liesmann, Johnson City; Garrett Craig, Johnson City; John Smith, Johnson City; Justin Sullemeier, Johnson City; Barbara McCully, Henrietta; Allison Moore, Duncanville; Krista Remmers, Karnes City
UTAH: Phillips Family Band—Kecia, Jim, Donni, Stephen, George and Judy Ann Phillips; Mt. Nebo
VIRGINIA: Wayne Hubble, Bland; James Britton, Bland
WASHINGTON: Rob Embody, Toledo; Jennifer McVeigh, Finley

National Chapter Awards

OKLAHOMA: The Amber Pocssett; Weatherbird
PENNSYLVANIA: Twin Valley
SOUTH CAROLINA: Eklon; Marion; Roelyn
TENNESSEE: Cherokee; Polk; Powell Valley; Riverside; Woodbury
TEXAS: Baytown Robert E. Lee; Clear Creek; Katy; Ysleta
UTAH: Tooele
VIRGINIA: Jefferson Forest; Lee-Davis; Patrick Henry
WASHINGTON: Evergreen; Mountain View; Winlock
WISCONSIN: Blanchardville Peatonica; Clear Lake; Everdale; Mansfield; Monroe; Oregon
WYOMING: Gillette

BRONZE

ALABAMA: Brantley; Crossville; Daleville; Marbury; Russell; Scottsboro
ARIZONA: Antelope
ARKANSAS: Hartford; Laraca; Lincoln; Lonoke; Prange Grove; West Fork

CALIFORNIA: Fallbrook; Fresno Unified School District; Kelseyville; Tracy; Turlock
COLORADO: Byers; Haxton; Hoshone
CONNECTICUT: Housatonic Valley; Rockville
DELAWARE: Milford
FLORIDA: Dade City Senior; Gashar; Lafayette Senior; Lake Butler Junior; Lake Butler Senior; Lake Placid Senior; Okeechobee Branch; Ponce de Leon Senior; Sebring Senior
GEORGIA: Chatham; Gilmer County; Newton County
ILLINOIS: Somauch; Lafollette; Union; Winchester
KANSAS: Cherryvale; Concordia; Jackson Heights; Labette County; Pike Valley; Plainville; Uniontown; Westmoreland; Williamsburg
KENTUCKY: Appleton; Breckinridge County; Davess County; Radland
LOUISIANA: Crowley; Hathaway; Midland; Oak Grove
MARIE: Limestone
MARYLAND: Calcuton

MICHIGAN: Byron; Centerville; Charlotte
MINNESOTA: Plainview; Wilmar; Worthington
MISSISSIPPI: Caladonia; War
MISSOURI: Albany; Bowling Green R-1; Chillicothe; Eldon; Halfway; Lakeand; McDonald County; Memphis; Monroe; Ozark
NEBRASKA: Logan Valley; Ravenna
NEVADA: Carson Valley
NEW JERSEY: Wagon Hills
NORTH CAROLINA: Bartlett; Vance; Farmont; Mountain Heritage; North Irrel; Oxford; South Johnston; West Carteret
NORTH DAKOTA: Bottineau; Finley-Sharon; Lamore J.E. Eastgate; Lubon; Rogy; Williston
OHIO: Northwest Clark; Peebles; Tri Rivers Career Center
OKLAHOMA: Allan; Cashion; Copan; Cushing; Dustin; Hooker; Hobart; Lawrence; Marlow; Pawnee; Perry; Prague; Springer; Stigler; Stratford; Stroud; Tecumseh; Thomas;

Wadena
OREGON: Elgin; Forest Grove; Yamhill-Carlton
PENNSYLVANIA: Dover
RHODE ISLAND: Scituate
SOUTH CAROLINA: Clover; Dorman; Leno; Pleasant Hill
SOUTH DAKOTA: Bowdle
TENNESSEE: Doyle; Lexington; Morgan County; Meigs County; Northeast; Warren County
TEXAS: Booker; Brownsville; Bryan; Cal Farley's Boys Ranch; Calisthen; Canyon; Dumas; Garland; Gilmer; Gladewater; Godley; Harford; Iowa Park; Jacksonville; Livingston; Lorena; Mansfield; McGregor; Midland; Mission; Northwest; Orange Grove; Pleasanton; Prattland; Raymondville; Ross S. Sterling; South Garland; Sulphur Springs; West Sabine
UTAH: Bear River
VERMONT: Enosburg
VIRGINIA: Greene; Liberty Jr.; Park View; Stonewall Jackson Jr.
WEST VIRGINIA: Ravenswood
WISCONSIN: Green Bay East; Janesville Parker; Madison East; Marion; Mauston; New Auburn; Vircona; West De Pere
WYOMING: Meeteetse; Southeast Goshen

Agriscience

Agriscience Teacher of the Year

Sponsored by the General Fund of the National FFA Foundation, Inc.

Regional winners of the Agriscience Teacher of the Year competition vied for the coveted top spot during interviews on Thursday. Leeman Charles Parker of Selma, Calif. was chosen for his innovative approach. He transformed an average high school agriculture department into one of the state's model programs. He is now working to implement a state-wide agriscience program.

Parker was the recipient of \$2,000 and a plaque. All four national finalists received a clock, \$1,000 and a plaque for their school.

National Winner:

Leeman Charles Parker, Selma, Calif.

Lawson, Harbeson: **SOUTHERN-Tennessee:** Johnny Head, Clarksville; **SOUTHERN-Alabama:** Lamar Dewberry, Lineville; **WESTERN-New Mexico:** Ray E. Cholewski, Raton; **WESTERN-Texas:** Steven W. Forsythe, El Paso

National Finalists:

CENTRAL-Kansas: Jay Bohnenbust, Clay Center; **EASTERN-Virginia:** Lealand D. Luck, South Boston; **SOUTHERN-Florida:** Ronald E. Mathews Jr., Pierson; **WESTERN-California:** Leeman C. Parker, Selma

Regional Winners:

CENTRAL-Indiana: Ronald W. Helty, Auburn; **CENTRAL-North Dakota:** Dennis R. Peterson, Devils Lake; **EASTERN-Ohio:** Nevin L. Taylor, Maryville; **EASTERN-Delaware:** Robert

State Winners:

COLORADO: Ben J. Rainbolt Jr., Gilcrest; **GEORGIA:** Everett R. Tittsworth, Dunwoody; **IOWA:** Dennis L. Dugan, Franklin; **KENTUCKY:** David L. Dugan, Franklin; **MINNESOTA:** Dennis A. Voyles, St. Cloud; **MISSISSIPPI:** Edward D. Leonard, Vaiden; **MISSOURI:** Edward Stephens, Carthage; **OKLAHOMA:** Bob E. Roberson, Drumright; **SOUTH DAKOTA:** John D. Rist, Bowdle; **UTAH:** Ray Gless, Salina; **WISCONSIN:** Steven G. Redenius, Janesville



Winning the Agriscience Teacher of the Year award delighted Leeman Charles Parker, Selma, Calif. (Photo by Andy Markwart)

Agriscience Student Recognition



Gary Todd, center, reacts to being named the FFA's first recipient of the Agriscience Student award. (Photo by Andy Markwart)

Sponsored by Monsanto Agricultural Company

The notion of science in the agriculture classroom is nothing new. For the first time, however, FFA recognized the scientific efforts of students during a convention session. Developed on the heels of the Agriscience Teacher of the Year award, the two programs work hand in hand to encourage the application of science to agriculture.

The national winner, Gary Todd, Conestoga, Neb., and other finalists were chosen from a field of seven regional winners during interviews held on Thursday. Todd's project explored the use of electrostatic spraying to increase the accuracy and effectiveness of chemical application. Electrostatic spraying is a process in which an electrical charge is given to a spray mixture while the opposite charge is given to the plants to be sprayed. His experiments demonstrated that 26 percent less herbicide was needed to cover a given amount of acreage.

As first place winner, Todd received a \$5,000 scholarship. The runner up, Timothy Lam, Mt. Crawford, Va., received a \$3,000 scholarship. The eight regional finalists each earned \$500 for their efforts and all 50 state winners received a \$1,000 scholarship.

National Winner: Gary Todd, Conestoga, Nebraska

Runner Up: Timothy Lam, Mt. Crawford, Virginia

Regional Winners:

CENTRAL-South Dakota: Michael Jaspers, Eder; **CENTRAL-Nebraska:** Gary R. Todd, Union; **EASTERN-Virginia:** Timothy L. Lam, Mt. Crawford; **EASTERN-Ohio:** Stephen M. Cameron, Lyons; **EASTERN-Maryland:** Lori L. Powell, Monrovia; **SOUTHERN-Georgia:** Lisa Smith, Comer; **WESTERN-Washington:** Lisa C. Gorman, Challaary; **WESTERN-Idaho:** Teresa C. Brown, Blackfoot

State Winners:

ARKANSAS: Leslie J. Hays, Winslow; **COLORADO:** Lori A. Moeller, Flagler; **INDIANA:** Mcrah Helty, Auburn; **IOWA:** Mike Jones, Lamont; **KANSAS:** Matt Hobelman, Republic; **MAINE:** Mary A. Rossignol, Washburn; **MINNESOTA:** Jennifer H. Sluiter, Hanska; **NEVADA:** Claire Hamer, Elko; **NORTH CAROLINA:** Rebecca M. Lew, Cary; **NORTH DAKOTA:** Mark Knudson, Crosby; **OREGON:** Andrew L. Dibbern, Hillsboro; **WEST VIRGINIA:** John P. Patterson, Gay; **WISCONSIN:** Jill Coenen, Rudolph

National FFA Foundation

If FFA members are the organization's heartbeat, the National FFA Foundation is its backbone. The foundation provides solid support for a vast array of programs. From the incentives that motivate performance to the recognition that rewards accomplishment, the National FFA Foundation promotes and finances opportunity.

Nowhere was the foundation's work more visible than at the National FFA Convention. The culmination of its efforts were everywhere. Accomplished public speakers competed before a packed house. Talented young musicians took their bows amidst thunderous applause. Skilled judges tested their prowess in evaluating livestock while aspiring agricultural economists tested their knowledge of farm business management. And, at Thursday night's sponsor recognition, the foundation celebrated another successful year.

Outgoing chairman Joe Downey announced that another record-breaking sum had been raised—\$3.3 million to be used in support of the FFA, the National FFA Alumni Association, the National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association, the National Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization, and the National Young Farmer Educational Association and Institute.

Downey lauded the foundation's professional staff based in Madison, Wis., for the organization's phenomenal growth. "Bernie Staller deserves recognition for the exceptional job he does as executive director," says Downey. "His level of dedication goes way beyond just doing the job."

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The Fertilizer Institute, Monsanto Fund, Pfizer Incorporated/Agricultural Division, Rohm & Haas Company and Western Auto Supply Company

25 YEAR SPONSORS

Farm & Industrial Equipment Institute, Kellogg Company and Welch Foods Incorporated

15 YEAR SPONSORS

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Nicholas Babson, 1989 chairman elect of the Foundation Sponsors' Board, addresses the Thursday evening session. Photo by Sam Harrel

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Sponsors' Board 1989-1990

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Gerald Welch
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Honorary American Farmers

Adult supporters of FFA were recognized on Friday morning with the conferring of Honorary American Farmer Degrees. Critical to the success of the FFA, the efforts of teachers, teacher educators, business and government leaders, parents and others were applauded as each was presented with the Honorary American Farmer certificate and key.

"It is a personal reward for all of the time and the effort that a person puts into his job," said Jack Staats, Alva, Okla.

ALABAMA: Jerome Campbell, Montgomery; J. L. Holmes, Montgomery
ARIZONA: Ronald Wood, Avondale
ARKANSAS: Clifton R. Braker, Fayetteville
CALIFORNIA: Orville E. Thompson, Davis; Norman S. Waters, Sacramento
COLORADO: Matthew J. Davis (Posthumously), Fort Lupton; Ramsey Groves, Fort Collins; Charles Johnson, Akron; Jay A. McCracken, Denver; Kenneth Ochsner, Fort Collins; Robert Ochsner, Fort Collins; Alireh W. Renzelman, Haxtun; Windol Wyatt, Fort Collins
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Gordon Ali, Washington; Darry Carmine, Washington; Bonnie Gulon, Washington; Diane D. Lewis, Washington; Wilmer D. Mizzell, Washington; Mark Nessler, Washington; Jerry Stromer, Washington
FLORIDA: John Denmark, Tallahassee
GEORGIA: Thomas T. Irvin, Atlanta; Bobby W. Joslin, Cartersville; Curtis Kinsley, Atlanta; Ernest W. Morgan, Thomasville; Robert L. Nash, Macon; Cleon Oliver, Reidsville; Lanell Oliver, Reidsville
IDAHO: Richard M. Garrard, Bury; Gary A. Lee, Moscow; Louis E. Riesenberg, Moscow
ILLINOIS: J. Gordon Bidder, Bloomington; Murell Hollis, Bushnell
INDIANA: Joseph L. Downey, Indianapolis; James E. Huxon Jr., Greenwood; Jerry L. Peters, West Lafayette; Gary O. Swaim, Indianapolis
IOWA: Terry E. Branstad, Des Moines
KANSAS: Lyle Hanschu, Lost Springs; Bill J. Chiemeier, Topeka; John Parnley, Manhattan;

John B. Riley, Manhattan; John W. Slocombe, Manhattan
LOUISIANA: Gwendolyn LeDoux, Denham Springs; Paul LeDoux, Denham Springs; Jeffrey W. Moss, Baton Rouge; John Sandel, Florien
MARYLAND: Jesse I. Bural, Monrovia; Ivar D. Holmberg, Princess Anne; Gary L. Smith, College Park
MASSACHUSETTS: Lee Salonen Jr., West Springfield
MICHIGAN: Douglas Spike, Bloomfield Hills
MINNESOTA: C. Eugene Allen, St. Paul; R. James Erdi, St. Paul; Gene V. Francis, Blooming Prairie; Ronald J. Hayes, Austin; David A. McCarthy, Waseca; Sulo J. Ojakangas, Hibbing; Edgar Olson, Fosston; Bruce L. Pankonin, Minnetonka; Marvin L. Thomsen, Pipestone
MISSISSIPPI: John W. Jones Jr., Jackson
MISSOURI: Edgar I. Altor Jr., Jefferson City; Don Bledsoe, Eldon; Rosemary Bledsoe, Eldon; Connie Gustafson, Kansas City; Larry Lackamp, Blue Springs; Dale L. Lightfoot, North Kansas City; M. James Robertson, Orson Woods; Norman F. Rohrbach, Jefferson City
NEBRASKA: Roy D. Dillon, Lincoln; Steve Equall, Lincoln; Jack Evans, Hayes Center; Linda Evans, Curtis; Richard L. Katt, Lincoln; Stanley Schelkopf, Strang; Donna Schelkopf, Strang
NEVADA: Joe G. Harper, Reno
NEW JERSEY: Arthur R. Brown Jr., Trenton
NEW YORK: Tom Lane, New York
NORTH CAROLINA: Alton R. Davis, Elizabethtown; Tom Dille, Research Triangle Park; Dix Harper, Raleigh; Barbara J. Mapiedi, Raleigh; Wayne McCall, Balsam Grove; Shirley McCall, Balsam Grove; Elijah J. Tyson, Charlotte
NORTH DAKOTA: Donald Priebe, Fargo
OHIO: Rick L. Metzger, Waterville; Larry E. Miller, Columbus; Kenneth W. Feisch, Columbus; Dean W. Simeral, Columbus; Betty Wilhelm, Custer; Marvin Wilhelm, Custer
OKLAHOMA: John W. Gosney Jr., Fairview; Kristin Gosney, Fairview; David Hames, Norman; Sharon Hames, Norman
OREGON: Michael J. Burke, Corvallis; Dewey Rand Jr., Salem
PENNSYLVANIA: Dennis C. Scanlon, University Park; Roger W. Smith (Posthumously), Waynesburg; James H. Speer Jr., Blair Mills; Henriette D. Speer, Blair Mills
RHODE ISLAND: Tom Hawkins, Johnston
SOUTH CAROLINA: Hugh P. McClimon, Columbia
SOUTH DAKOTA: Robert E. Glanzner, Huron;

Shirley W. Seas (Posthumously), Brookings
TENNESSEE: Gerry Newkirk, Nashville; Huston Prater, McMinnville; Paul M. Starnes, Chattanooga; Thomas C. Womack, Nashville
TEXAS: Eugene Jekel, New Braunfels; William C. Sarpalus, Austin; James W. Stewart, Lubbock
VIRGINIA: J. Dale Oliver, Blacksburg; Dennis C. Shafer, Alexandria
WASHINGTON: Si Eldred, Bellingham; Judy Eldred, Bellingham
WEST VIRGINIA: Ronald W. Grimes, Charleston; Layle D. Lawrence, Morgantown
WISCONSIN: Robert W. Helmed, Blanchardville; James Renier, Denmark; Charles Saloutis, Plainville
WYOMING: O. R. Wille, Baggs
WEST GERMANY: Reinhold Meisterjahn, Bonn

FFA Snapshots

"I see the convention as a big bath of feelings. By seeing how Americans love their country, the West German students can learn to be proud of theirs. Americans expressed pride in their country when they sing the national hymn and pray in the meetings. West Germans do not use such things because they are really afraid of Germany's past."



Reinhold Meisterjahn
 Honorary American Farmer
 Bonn, West Germany
 General Secretary of the Farmer's Union
 of West Germany

Teachers

ALABAMA: Randy M. Blackledge, Elmont; Bob Moorehead, Skipperville; James A. Turner, Attala; Jerry G. Williamson, Opelika
ARIZONA: Robert K. Holland, Springerville
ARKANSAS: Lanny E. Rice, Prairie Grove
CALIFORNIA: Mark A. Anglin, Alwata; Jim Aschwarden, Galt; Patrick J. McCartney, Lincoln; Leeman C. Parker, Kingsburg; Frank Tebeau, Visalia; Bud West, Reedley
IDAHO: Dan A. Sample, Kuna
ILLINOIS: Bernard G. Goetze, Winchester; Donald G. Miller, New Holland; William A. Ritter, Louisville
INDIANA: Fred E. Schuman, Berne; Lewis Whistler, Oxford
IOWA: Thomas P. Cory, Alleman; Andrew E. Rowe, Marengo; Keith Wells, Fairfield
KENTUCKY: Bobby Gaffney, Versailles; Eddy Snowden Jr., Stanton
MASSACHUSETTS: Denise Megiel, Dighton
MICHIGAN: Curt Duval, Mt. Pleasant; Daniel Landresse, Remus
MINNESOTA: Tim Rademacher, Montevideo; Dan VonBank, Clara City; Myron Warner, Montevideo
MISSOURI: Gene Courdin, Cassville; James L. Kyle, Marionville; Barbara Rothenberger, Columbia; Gerald Whistance, Hall Way
MONTANA: Steve Wilcox, Kalispell
NEBRASKA: Fritz Steinholt, Atkinson; Michael Tyrrell, Waverly
NEW JERSEY: Michael J. Hubick, Columbus

NEW MEXICO: Les Purcella, Roswell
NORTH CAROLINA: Don C. Elliott, Lawndale; Fred H. Fox Jr., Cary; Robert S. Grady, Beaufort
NORTH DAKOTA: Myron Johs, Lisbon
OHIO: Robert Bender, Marion; John A. Dilling, Lisbon; Kenneth R. Fiehlman, Lees Creek; Robert Hermiller, Warren; Jack Jacquemin, West Chester
OKLAHOMA: Larry R. Harvey, Beggs; Ronald K. Long, Lawton; Jack Staats, Alva; Shirley Stephens, Chickasha
OREGON: John B. Dimick, Central Point; William Peal, Pendleton
PENNSYLVANIA: Joseph J. Verry, Williamsburg
SOUTH CAROLINA: Jerry Pace, Gresham
TEXAS: Burke Bullock, Wintersburg; Steven W. Forsythe, El Paso; Charles Hutto, Eastland; Marcus Phillips, Ennis; Delbert W. Reed, Bryan; John Weathers, Lubbock
VIRGINIA: Ernest W. Pain Jr., Lancaster; Dale H. Sanders, Tappahannock
WASHINGTON: Bob L. Brown, Eatonville; Richard L. Cooper, Vancouver
WEST VIRGINIA: Roger L. Shaver, Parkersburg
WISCONSIN: Robert A. Dieckse, Lena; Robert D. Hill, Anskansaw; Wayne L. Tombschre, Osceola

Distinguished Service Citations

The strength of the FFA is due in part to the continual support of its sponsors. During the national convention, FFA members recognize those organizations and companies which have sustained a strong commitment to the future of agriculture through the National FFA Foundation. Three such sponsors were presented the Distinguished Service Citation at the Thursday afternoon session.

NAVISTAR International Transportation Corporation

Formerly International Harvester, Navistar is a major producer of trucks and is a 44-year sponsor. Navistar has sponsored two safety programs, "Brand 'Em for Safety" and "Brand 'Em II." Both efforts included instructional materials, audio-visuals and safety decals for equipment printed in three languages.

CHRYSLER Corporation —Dodge Trucks

Best described as a sponsor that wears many hats, Chrysler Corporation—Dodge Trucks provides funding for the International Experience for National Stars program, the Cereals Grains Proficiency Award and the FFA Collectors' Belt Buckle Project. A sponsor for 36 years, the company also has two well-known individuals who give of their time support of the FFA: Chairman Lee Iacocca, who spoke at the 1987 convention and Jerry York, vice president, Truck Operations, Chrysler Motors Corporation, who serves on the National FFA Foundation Sponsors' Board.

DEKALB Genetics Corporation

The DEKALB Agricultural Accomplishment Award has been provided to 115,000 senior high school students for 41 years, and DEKALB Genetics Corporation is a 26-year sponsor of the foundation. Presently the company provides Work Experience Abroad scholarships and sponsors the Placement in Agricultural Production Proficiency Award. DEKALB Genetics Corporation also supports through the foundation the National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association and National Young Farmer Educational Association.

National FFA Alumni Association

As FFA members gathered in Kansas City, so did members of the National FFA Alumni Association for their 17th annual convention.

Gary W. Bye, Pomeroy, Wash., the late Robert Schumacher, Denmark, Wis., and Duane A. Van Sickle, Buckeye Valley, Ohio were honored as the FFA Alumni Outstanding Achievement award recipients.

In the Outstanding Alumni Affiliate competition, the Denmark, Wis., and Bushnell-Prairie City, Ill., chapters earned first and second, respectively, from more than 1,200 local affiliates nationwide.

Alumni delegates elected Jim Sipiorski, Green Bay, Wis., as the 1988-89 National FFA Alumni President. Other new officers are: Josiah Phelps, Fort Valley, Ga., vice president; Mark Williams, Oviedo, Fla., southern representative; and Roxann Sommers, London, Ohio, eastern representative. Past President Rick Metzger, Waterville, Ohio, and Western Representative Raymond Cockrum, Guthrie, Okla., will also remain on the National FFA Alumni Council for the next year.

Thirty affiliates were honored as Outstanding FFA Alumni Affiliates:

GOLD

Bushnell-Prairie City, Ill.
Hopkins, Mich.
Bonduel, Wis.
Denmark, Wis.
Mauston, Wis.

Milan, Mo.
South Rowan, N.C.
Buckeye Valley, Ohio
New Lexington, Ohio
Yelm/Rainier, Wash.
Black Hawk, Wis.
Putaski, Wis.

Westmoreland, Kan.
Apollo, Ky.
Walkersville, Md.
New Ulm, Minn.
Fairview, Mont.
Central City, Neb.
Norfolk, Neb.
Scottsbluff, Neb.
West Holt, Neb.
Finley-Sharon, N.D.
Halls, Tenn.
Frederick County, Va.

SILVER

Gilmer County, Ga.
Clay Center, Kan.
Homer, Mich.

BRONZE

Frostproof, Fla.
Hill City, Kan.
Washington, Kan.



Rhonda Scheulen, 1983-84 national FFA vice president, presented a workshop Thursday afternoon. (Photo by Andy Markwart)

Auction

As the final "Sold!" echoed through the air at the 3rd annual FFA Alumni Auction, nearly \$26,200 had been raised for the organization's future activities.

A 1989 Silverado pickup donated by Chevrolet Motor Division brought the highest dollar value. Eugene and Nancy Adler of Bowling Green, Ohio, purchased the blue-and-gold pickup complete with FFA emblems.

Louis Newbanks, Yuma, Colo., paid \$2,450 for a Honda four-wheeler all terrain vehicle (ATV), donated by American Honda Motor Company. Yamaha Motor Company also sponsored a four-wheel ATV, purchased for \$2,425 by Mildred Moore, Pope, Miss. Members of the Michigan FFA

Alumni coordinated and collected the 360 plus donated items. Steve Meredith and Morris Fannon served as auctioneers.

Workshops

Sponsored by Land O'Lakes, Inc.

Some of the most popular events of the week for FFA members were the Alumni workshops presented by former national officers Rhonda Scheulen, Kevin Ehlen, Steve Meredith, Kevin Coffman and Kevin Yosi. Workshops chairman Odell Miller of Ohio organized an exciting slate of speakers. Each led a one-hour session.



Rick Metzger, left, outgoing president, congratulates newly-elected president Jim Sipiorski. (Photo by Orin Wagner)

VIP Citations

A highlight of the Friday morning session was the presentation of VIP Citations to persons who have provided exemplary service to the FFA. Four have held high state posts in vocational and agricultural education, two have served as teacher educators and one has been National FFA Foundation chairman. Together, these men have served the FFA for a total of over 200 years.

Irving C. Cross
Professor Emeritus
Colorado State University
Irving Cross climbed the ladder of agricultural education, beginning as a high school agriculture instructor in 1948. He became an assistant professor at Colorado State in 1957, and became head of the agriculture education section in 1968. Retired in 1983, Cross has authored many articles about agricultural production and business.

Jerry T. Davis
Former Assistant State FFA Advisor
California Association

Under Jerry Davis' leadership, California FFA membership grew from 12,000 to nearly 30,000. His 20-year ten-

ure in that position was highlighted by implementation of a statewide FFA leadership program and the writing of legislation which resulted in a special annual appropriation of \$500,000 for the improvement of vocational student organizations.

Ralph R. Dreesen
Executive Director
Oklahoma FFA Foundation
Ralph Dreesen has been part of FFA for 47 years—from serving as state supervisor of vocational education to four years on the National FFA Board of Directors and National FFA Foundation Board of Trustees. He served as president of the National Association of Supervisors of Agricultural Education and was on the policy committee for agriculture education of the American Vocational Association.

Sidney E. Koon
Executive Director
Colorado Vocational Association
From teaching high school agriculture to serving as state supervisor of agricultural education, Sidney Koon has been involved with FFA for 32 years. He served as state executive sec-

retary and was named Outstanding Teacher of Vocational Agriculture for 18 years. Koon is an Honorary American Farmer.

O. Claude McGhee
Professor Emeritus
West Virginia University
Holder of a doctorate in agricultural education, O. Claude McGhee spent over 43 years serving high school agriculture and FFA. He taught high school for 19 years, and served as a university agricultural teacher educator for almost 25 years. McGhee has been awarded numerous honorary FFA degrees.

Owen S. Newlin
Senior Vice President
Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc.
Owen Newlin has long been a force in the National FFA Foundation. He served as chairman in 1981, was a member of the Sponsors' Board from 1979 to 1982 and served on the Board of Trustees in 1980 and 1981. He has been instrumental in Pioneer's 33 years of support—for FFA, NVATA and NYFEA. Newlin has also headed the U.S. Feed Grains Council and was named Agri-Marketer of the Year by

the National Agri Marketing Association.

Glenn See
Former State Supervisor
of Agriculture Education
Mississippi

Many contributions to FFA and agricultural education are credited to Glenn See, who retired as state supervisor in August. Past positions include district livestock specialist, district supervisor, executive secretary of the Mississippi FFA Foundation and membership chairman on the National FFA Alumni Board of Directors.

Jim Warren
Former Employee, U.S. Department of Education
Maryland
Jim Warren has been a familiar face at many National FFA Conventions. As an employee of the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C., he served on the National FFA Board of Directors. Warren advised the National FFA Nominating Committee for 18 years, and also served as state advisor to the North Carolina association of New Farmers of America.

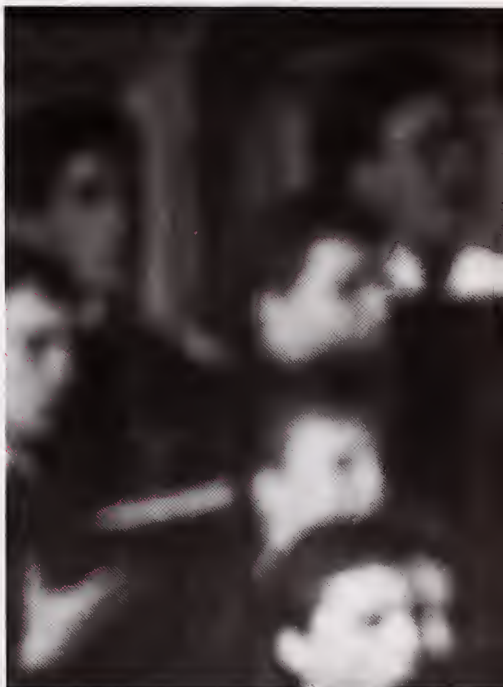


AGRICULTURE

Hope And Glory

"In our attic, I found an old FFA manual from the 1930s. On one page they had what they called 'Future Farmer Yells.' My favorite chant was one that went like this... 'Hayseed, pumpkin, turnip, squash, Future Farmers we are by gosh.' This chant symbolizes the changes in agriculture and in FFA over the years. Once these chants were appropriate because FFA was a farm boy club. Today, we need to respond to the needs of our time and use FFA and agricultural education to prepare young people as they serve the broad industry of agriculture."

*Ron Wilson
National FFA Vice President 1975-76 and a member of the
National Academy of Sciences study committee on
Agricultural Education in Secondary Schools*



URE'S EADING EDGE

FFA



Retiring Addresses

1977-88

National FFA Officers

A Moment in Paradise

Dear Diary, (September 27, 1988, Honolulu, Hawaii) Here I sit on an island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean with gorgeous, majestic mountains, volcanoes, rain forest, flowers, and beach surrounding me... a place many consider to be its own little world. I know that I've experienced a paradise far better than any of this... a paradise to which Helen Keller referred when she said, "The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or touched, only felt in the heart."

This year I have witnessed paradise in many of you. You displayed a simple but extraordinary quality of helping others out of the pure goodness of your hearts, expecting nothing but respect in return.

I started searching for those special moments early in the year. I was returning home in December, anxious to see my hometown friends and my family.

I walked into the house and immediately saw the beautifully decorated evergreen tree. Under it was every young person's dream... pretty paper, big bows, presents, and more presents. As you might imagine, I searched the piles for the labels with my name. I held, shook, and sized each one up, even thought about pulling the tape off enough to open the corner of wrapping as I fantasized about the possibilities inside the boxes.

Later I glanced into my nine-year-old sister's room and saw a large poster she had made and taped to her door. In one corner of the poster she had drawn a picture of our family and in another a sketch of our home. In the top left-hand corner were five lines where she'd listed her Christmas wishes.

My little sister had filled in only two of the lines. Number one I wish my sister would come home and spend six and a half weeks with us. Number two: I wish my brother were healthy again. I was humbled as I compared my sister's selfish wishes with my wanting every present under the tree.

Sometimes we get caught up in a materialistic society, only thinking of ourselves and what others can do for us. We forget what life is all about: sharing unselfishly, exposing our hearts and outwardly giving, expecting nothing in return. Another lesson learned from a child's innocent mind and heart.

Dear Diary, (February 9, 1988, Tokyo, Japan) We hear and talk so much about how admirable it is for people to put individual biases aside, not be judgmental of others and come together for the good of a cause. This past week my fellow officers and I will measure people by their quality of character: by their humility, service, honesty and courage. These simple unselfish individuals in the world—the Japanese people.

I visited my host family and witnessed the Japanese priority in pleasing others. I noticed a beautiful Japanese doll sitting in the front room and mentioned to my host how so attractive it was. You can imagine how surprised I was three days later when they wrapped the same doll and gave it to me as a gift from their family. Although not uncommon, their people find satisfaction in giving to others and putting aside personal wants and possessions.

What a simple concept. I often wonder if our country is getting away from such basics. Our generation is hollering out for young people who don't judge others by their color, wealth or worldly success. Instead, we need yardsticks that will measure people by their quality of character: by their humility, service, honesty and courage. These simple qualities in great abundance have and can make the greatest contributions to our organization and our country. FFA members, thank you for exposing these same unique, simple qualities in yourselves this year. As your officers, we listened to many opinions about the proposed

constitutional amendments. Although we cannot predict the outcome of our recent decisions, I believe this year will go down in history as a memorable one for the FFA. As when our forefathers shaped this great nation, you too, have come together and displayed an unselfish service for the betterment of the whole organization, now and into the next decade. May you continue to find strength in the ability to expose those simple qualities as you enter the company of men and women who are shaping the nation and its destiny.

Dear Diary, (July 25, 1988, Washington, D.C.) I called home today and talked to my little sister and she told me about a poster contest she had entered. Apparently the winner will receive hundreds of dollars of scholarship money just by drawing a picture of their biggest wish. Again her thought process and actions caught me off guard.

Jodi colored a picture of our 20-year-old brother, Kory, on the left side of the poster. Then she colored a solid, dark black strip to the immediate right of which gradually faded to a lighter gray and eventually white as you continued to the right. On the far right side of the page was a beautiful color picture of our farmhouse and yard. At the very bottom was a little girl's etched words, "I wish my brother could see again." After a long-term battle with diabetes, one which many of us on the outside would consider impossible, Kory courageously faced the loss of his eyesight this past year. Although Jodi could have drawn everything from a bicycle to a night rider car, to a new horse, she again showed her unconditional love and thoughts in her wish for another human being.

What is the first comment an Olympic gold medalist, Academy Award winner, or Nobel Peace Prize recipient makes after they are victorious? "Thank you to those who helped me get here." FFA members, we can reach our goals. We can believe in ourselves and practice to perfection, but unless we have the strength, love, and concern of others to see us along the journey, we may never find the silver lining of paradise called success!

In order to taste the sweetness of achievement, we need to search for strength not only in our creator, but in other people. We need to distinguish those who genuinely want to help from those who may be hindering. The message is clear. We need to find special individuals with such rare character that they will push us to be our best, pick up when we fall, and not pull us off the pedestal when we succeed. This year I witnessed such fine actions in many of you people. The FFA is surrounded by people of this caliber. Advisors, parents, friends, state and national staff, chaperones and members who are eager to offer guidance, but only if we have the courage to ask for it.

And it is now that I try the impossible yet necessary feat: a thank you. I'm standing before you as a combination of the many places I've traveled and people I've met.

Thank my God because I know you can accomplish most when the one who loves you most is a part of your life. I can do all things through His name which strengthens me.

I thank my family for their many blessings and undying support, my brother for showing me that true beauty is beyond sight, and my sister for her refreshing view on life.

I thank my teammates. We knew this was one in a million. Somehow we got here together and it certainly wasn't by accident. We've shared dreams, private jokes and challenges. And though we are so very different, we've had a common and strong belief which has woven us together—the will to be a team and our commitment to you, the FFA members. We will soon pass on the gavel. We retire knowing wholeheartedly that this organization is in the hands of chapter, state, and national leadership from people who have dedicated their lives to the betterment of FFA members nationwide.

Next I thank my country. It's a land full of opportunity and freedom where only this year of paradise would be possible.

I thank myself for having just enough confidence and faith to dream a Greenhand's dream, overcome the many fears, and risk myself. The rewards have far outweighed the drawbacks.

As we return to our hometowns tonight, many of you may be ramming the gift shops for the perfect souvenir or present for some family members or friends. You'll take it home wrapped in pretty paper and big bows and give it to them saying, "Here, take this and know that I care." Yet the only gift you have shown me time and time again what Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "Gifts are only apologies for gifts." The only real gift is a piece of yourself. You have openly and thoughtfully provided me with a smorgasbord selection—moments of paradise which a camera snapshot can't catch. There's probably no way you can understand my heartfelt thank—for your love, for your tears and cards with words of encouragement, for showing me all I

ever have to be is what God made me, for the times your family welcomed me into their home, for singing at camp, for the pleasant surprises and phone calls, the reflecting pond vesper, the earth lodge, for helping me earn my wings, for letting me experience a natural high, for the touchstone, and sharing "Ever Since the World Began." May you continue to share the greatest gift you have—your life—and bless the lives of others as you have mine.

Dear Diary, (November 12, 1988, Kansas City, Mo.) It's so hard to think the culmination of all my hopes, dreams, and hard work in this organization has come to an end all in one day. Yet, that's exactly how life is, one moment of paradise after another. The personal challenge is making these few moments stretch to eternity.

If only I could bottle this feeling where my dream world collided with reality for a whole year. It is just my hope that I've shared those moments of paradise with those around me, who have put their heart in it. I thank you for the opportunity to serve.

A Run for the Roses

A run for the roses! What a perfect way to summarize and describe this fast-paced and exciting year. I have dreamed of running this race for years, and now, as I approach the finish wire, I realize that in this run for the roses, it's the run, not the roses that is truly rewarding.

Indeed, it is the journey through these past six years and not the destination of this brief moment that I will treasure and remember forever. And now, as I near the end of this race, I can only hope that these parting thoughts will help you prepare for your own run for the roses.

*It's a run for the roses
As fast as you can.
Your fate is delivered,
Your moment's at hand.
It's the chance of a lifetime.
In a lifetime of chance.*

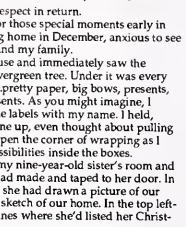
The chance of a lifetime in a lifetime of chance. This year has been a chance of a lifetime. It has provided a daily opportunity for all FFA members blossom and bloom into talented young leaders from Clovis to Columbus and from Nacogdoches to the North Pole. I have been inspired as you've planted your dreams, cultivated them with confidence, and irrigated them with your endless enthusiasm.

Throughout the year, I have witnessed roses of different colors and persuasions come together at banquets, conferences and conventions to form beautiful bouquets, all in the name of brotherhood and cooperation. Indeed, each day has presented a new opportunity to run for the roses—the roses of friendship, knowledge and service to mankind.

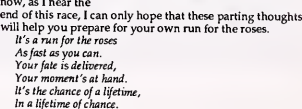
But a step and think about it, my entire FFA career has been filled with chances to run for the roses. I remember well the chance I had to stand on this stage five years ago and deliver my speech in the National Prepared Public Speaking Contest. It was a turning point in my FFA career and my life. I was awarded second place for my efforts that evening, but it's not the plaque nor the check I received that strengthened my self-confidence and prepared me for future opportunities. It was the experience of delivering a speech before an audience of 22,000 people that made such a lasting impact on my life. It was the chance to run for the roses, and though I didn't stand in the winner's circle, I grew from the experience of running the race.

Today I challenge each of you to dream a dream and to embark on your own run for the roses. After all, isn't that what the American Dream is all about—the opportunity to

Kelli Evans
National FFA President
Lincoln, Nebraska



Kevin Ochser
National Secretary
Fort Collins, Colorado



Retiring Addresses

run for the roses—whatever those roses may be?

I warn you, many people will tell you there are no roses left in American agriculture. They would like you to believe that our industry is willing and dying on the vine. However, they have not seen the garden of opportunities I've seen through this past year. The rapid growth in areas like biotechnology, food science, aquaculture and agbiomarking is evidence that American agriculture is blossoming with fresh new careers. And, with a 13 percent annual shortage of qualified agricultural workers, our industry is crying for caretakers.

FFA members, the stakes are high. Agriculture and America are betting their future on you. So as you prepare to run this race, I hope you will saddle yourself with all the knowledge, experience, and skills offered through high school agriculture and the FFA. I encourage you to seek out and accept the advice and training given by your parents and advisors, for without the coaching I've received from my parents and advisors, I would have never made it out of the starting gates. I challenge you to search out the support and friendship of fellow FFA members. It is because of the careful grooming I've received from FFA friends like the five I've worked with this year that I have been able to improve and prepare myself for each succeeding race. Finally, in your run for the roses, I hope you find a peckey who can guide and direct your life like my eternal peckey has directed mine. Only now do I realize the true meaning of Proverbs 16:5, "A man's mind plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps."

Before you lunge from those starting gates, however, may I suggest once again that in your run for the roses, it's the run and not the roses that is truly rewarding. As Denis Wheatley writes in his book *Being the Best*, "The secret to reaping the greatest benefits from hard work and purposeful living is smelling the roses while you're on the journey instead of waiting until you reach the destination."

Earlier this year, I heard that same message in a high school gymnasium in Melba, Idaho. It was November 23 when I fulfilled my first responsibility as a national officer by speaking at the memorial service for three individuals who had perished in the crash of Continental Flight 1713. They were returning home from the 60th National FFA Convention.

While that experience was, undoubtedly, the most painful and difficult experience of my year, I realize now the important lesson it taught me.

During the service, a poem was shared which had been written by Sherry Nelson. Sherry was an ordinary FFA member just like you and me. She was chapter FFA sentinel, the student council historian, and the only member before her fatal accident, she had been a member of the ag mechanics team that competed in national competition right here in Kansas City. In her short 18 years of life, Sherry seemed to have discovered and captured in words a philosophy from which we can all benefit. In her poem she wrote:

*Take time to enjoy life
To laugh and cry
Take each day as it comes
But don't let life pass you by.*

*Take time to wonder
What the future may bring
But live for today
Because today is everything.*

Today is everything. Life is not one long race, it is a daily opportunity to run for the roses. We can't wait until we're standing in the winner's circle to enjoy life, we must enjoy the race as we run it. For you see, if I've learned anything this year, it has been that true victory and satisfaction in life is not found in a few fleeting moments in the winner's circle, it is found in the friends you meet, the experiences you encounter, and the memories you make along the way.

I close by challenging you to make every day a run for the roses and leave you with the words of a song written by Sherry Nelson's soccer coach in memory of the victims of flight 1713.

*Why do we want to say what we feel
Why do we hesitate to be real
With those who we love until it's too late
Please tell me why, why do we wait.*

*Live every day as if it's your last
Hold on to your friendships, don't let them pass
For our memories are things we do every day
So go out and make a memory today.*

*A friend is a page upon which we write
And our words can bring darkness, or soft gentle light
So write words of honesty, laughter and love
And treasure this gift from above.*

*Don't dwell in the future, don't look to the past
Remember when life comes your way
That it's only what happens today that will last
So go out and make a memory today!*

FFA members, thank you for a beautiful bouquet of memories and may God bless you in your run for the roses.

Instant Eternity

"Twenty seconds and counting... 12, 11, 10, 9. Ignition sequence start, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0. All engines running, lift-off, we have lift-off, lift-off on Apollo 11."

Apollo 11, a national mission. It was July 20, 1969, when American astronauts first stepped onto the moon, proclaiming one small step for man and one giant leap for all mankind.

With all the glamor of the moon landing, we must also remember the time, energy and national spirit in preparation prior to the initial lift-off toward the moon. It was a focus for our nation, a mission charted years in advance that all Americans were cheering for.

President John F. Kennedy addressed the U.S. Congress, the entire nation and the world eight years before the moon landing. His message: "Now it is time to take longer strides, time for a great new American enterprise, time for this nation to take a clearly leading role in space achievement, which in many ways may hold the key to our future on earth."

Where are we today? Now it is time to take longer strides, time for great new leadership in agriculture, time for this organization to take a clearly leading role in American agriculture, which in many ways may hold the key to the future in our world.

Kennedy concluded that, in a very real sense, it would not be one man going to the moon. He made that judgment for this nation to take a clear, unified step. We make our commitment affirmatively that agriculture's growth will not be for one member, one chapter or one state, it will be for an entire nation.

We have a mission. Your state delegates acted on the single largest packet of constitutional amendments ever. Our national staff is planning a summit at which they will determine how best to implement the decisions made at this convention.

We all have a responsibility to that mission. Throughout our programs, contests and activities, we all have plans for action. We, as members, have experience programs and leadership opportunities from which to learn and grow. We are making choices that direct our future and we share this competitive edge over many of our peers.

As much as I loved our trip to Japan, I felt fortunate to be from the U.S.A. You folks really have a choice of what you want to do. Japanese students are channeled by others even down to the everyday clothes they wear and the bookbags they carry. For some Japanese students, the pressure to qualify for college is so crushing that they commit suicide.

My hope is that you don't feel overly pressured by agricultural education and the FFA, but that through it you will see and pursue the choices you really do have. The agricultural industry, with today's advancements in genetics, engineering, marketing and science, offers more diversity than ever before. I have to hand it to the Japanese. Their competition and test requirements really do drive the strong and talented to success.

What drives us? For me, it is a desire to succeed and a willingness to work. The desire is our mission, our long run, our eternity. Our willingness to work, on the other hand, is our instant. Working as smart, as strong and as best we can today.

I heard a self-development salesman say, "If you do it, you'll feel like it." More to the point, that means logic cannot change emotion, but action will.

Have you ever looked at your record books and said, "Boy, there are a lot of empty pages?" Telling yourself it's a big job doesn't make you enjoy it or appreciate it, but doing the first ten pages will. You get started, feel progress and move into a place that is exciting. I still don't like keeping records, but I like to know how I'm doing and whether I'm making money. By doing it, I know how to get those results and that makes me happy.

Everyone likes to know how they are doing, especially this year with the drought. I heard a state officer in her retiring address this summer say, "These are the times when families flock to God." I think we need to keep this in mind.

What are you working for?

Evaluate your purpose. Set your sights the highest of all



Bill Hollis
National FFA Vice President
Central Region
Bushnell, Illinois

and then draw from the best assets of everyone. Even if the end result seems to be a personal accomplishment of your own, you may be surprised at the number of others who would really like to see you succeed.

There is a rock band at the top of the charts today symbolizing that team effort. Although there are some connotations of rock music I don't like, I do like this team and their drive. Four years ago they were leading all other groups in the number of months at the top. Their third major album, released in 1983, gave them their main boost in stardom. They were European and after their U.S. tour, decided to return home to enjoy their success.

Their stay in Europe was extended when a series of misfortunes came to the group. A serious car accident nearly took the life of their drummer. They began to reevaluate their performance. All this time the U.S. hadn't seen or heard of their music for nearly three years. They started concert tours throughout Europe, which they better explained as rehearsals, and finally came to a point of decision.

In August of 1986 they scheduled their largest European concert ever and were put to the test by over 50 of their recording executives. Their new music was overwhelmingly accepted; they recorded a new tape and set up a three-year tour of the United States.

Right now, they have the number one rock tape in America. Their concerts are attracting sellout crowds and, whether you are a rock fan or not, the effort and message this band sends is one of teamwork, desire and success, because they are also the only number-one band in the world with a one-arm drummer.

The group is Def Leppard. The tape: *Hysteria*. The drummer: Rick Allen. This is not only a message of one man's ability to overcome great obstacles, but more important, the efforts of the entire team, of five musicians, 30 executives, numerous doctors and specialists and millions of fans who have supported the dream of Def Leppard returning to success.

We all have a team. It's our national organization. It's your community, your chapter, your parents, your teachers and you.

There are many people who, from my initial investment in the cattle business to my election last November, believe in this team. I sincerely thank the five officers I've had God's richest blessing of serving with.

The national and state staffs I've had an opportunity to work with have been friendly and effective. My Illinois State Staff has been extremely supportive.

Our advisors and community at home are the only ones to uphold the day-to-day structure of this team. I'm one of those who loves his home town. I still believe that God made Bushnell as an example for the rest of the world to follow.

It would be foolish not to thank God for his ultimate responsibility in supporting me and this team structure and for allowing us all the family and friends to share it with.

My mother, father, brother, Rich and sister Becky have been heavily involved in this team. My dad told me as a freshman I could do just about anything I wanted. My mom supported me in every detail of my life.

The strongest and largest bond that carries all others to the real reason for the FFA is the true friends in members, families, in business and industries who share in the power of the FFA.

To you I challenge eternity and encourage you to begin instantly.

*May good fortune be with you,
May your guiding light be strong.
Bride a stairway to heaven with a
Prince or a doggoon.
Now, and whatever route you choose,
I'm right behind you, win or lose.*

The Magic Attic

In my heart is a magical dreamworld. A place to expect the unexpected. A vast array of hopes and dreams, free of restriction, only sheer imagination. In my mind is an attic, a storehouse of experiences, people, places, events, feelings, emotions, attitudes, and opinions—reality.

Throughout the course of this year something beautiful transpired. It seems as if somehow my dreamworld collided with reality and left remaining with me, a magic attic. In it is a preserved history of the past, a collection of the present, and a hope for the future. It serves as a place to recollect stored treasures. A place to ponder the progress of the industry of agriculture. A place to envision the future of this organization. A place to seek my God, Savior, and friend. A place to laugh, learn, and grow. And finally FFA members, a place to be with you.

In rummaging through the contents of a real attic you would find scrapbooks, photo albums, stored decorations, boxed letters, precious keepsakes, and a hope chest. Truly the experience of serving you this year has added to the contents of my real attic.

Reminiscing through the pages of a photo album brings back fond memories of an international agricultural experience in Japan. When we traveled to that foreign soil we had no idea that in 12 short days we would love, learn and grow. Perhaps the most enlightening moment during the trip was spending a weekend with a host family. Nestled in

Retiring Addresses

a small home in snowy Tajima City, I learned that regardless of color, religion, or nationality, the needs of people all across the world are the same. I was received warmly, treated royally, and on departure day was in tears as my host father chased after my train. Arriving at the hotel, I was anxious to hear about the other national officers' weekend and to share my experience with them. Amidst the busy exchange of conversation I noticed that Bill Hollis sat quietly and listened. I have come to know Bill as a person who values family life. He humbly explained to me that his host-family weekend was a most precious experience, one that he feared words could not justly describe. Thank you, Bill, for sharing your honesty and humility with me this year.

Terri Haines
National FFA Vice President
Western Region
Norman, Oklahoma

Traveling this year, I have seen an America diverse in its wealth, resources, religion, education, opportunities, and people. A nation dedicated to the principles of democracy and free enterprise. A country committed to peace on earth through a signed treaty with the Soviet Union. States united in their cheers as our Olympic athletes competed in Calgary, Canada, and Seoul, South Korea. And as space shuttle Discovery successfully orbited the earth, individuals shed tears of renewed faith and hope for the future. We are a proud America.

I shall never forget the state presidents' conference in our nation's capital. As we stood under the celestial sky peering into the reflecting pool at the Washington Monument, Kevin Ochsen explained that regardless of where you walk, the monument singles you out. As it points to you, we are reminded of our obligations and responsibilities as an American. I remember thinking how appropriate it was that Kevin share his patriotic sentiments with us, for he is a shining example of citizenship. Kevin, I appreciate your deep convictions and your heartfelt gratitude to live in America.

As high school students living in a free America, you made the decision to become a player in the game of life by enrolling in vocational agriculture and becoming a member of this organization. As victors in an industrious world, we must continually secure our number one reign. Complacency is our opponent. Uniformed in blue and gold, our generation of agriculturists will experience a wide range of opportunities in the industry of agriculture. We must be prepared to carry the ball, to tell the story of FFA and American agriculture. As emphasis shifts from production to business, marketing, management and research, we will have to run the race and compete in a global marketplace. In the agricultural arena there is no room on the sidelines. Everyone plays. United as a team we must be proactive, as opposed to reactive. Our future depends on forward thinking and progressive ideas. By giving of our time, talents, and energy, American agriculture will prosper and we will win.

There is one young man who has put his heart into the game this year. It has been a pleasure to work with Mickey McCall at NLCOS. And as he informed corporate America about current agricultural policy during our business and industry tour, I learned not only about the industry, but of his future commitment to educate young people in agriculture. Mickey, thank you for being a pinch hitter and coming to bat for our team and American agriculture.

In this history-making year of 19 proposed constitutional amendments, it has been an honor to represent you on the National FFA Board of Directors, to work with a group of progressive people committed to furthering agricultural education well into the 21st century and keeping this organization the mainstay of the agricultural industry.

Our success can be attributed in part to our solid national leadership. Kelli Evans has brought a rare mix of compassion and strength to our organization. Her uncompromising standards underscore her professionalism and performance. But her greatest attribute is the simple gift of unconditional friendship. Some of the most memorable times this year have been spent with her. Kelli, thank you for sharing God's creation with me.

Perhaps one of the unexpecting blessings received this year has been my association with adults, state and local advisors, executive secretaries, and state staff. I am a product of the instruction and friendship of my executive secretary Mr. Boggs, the state staff, and the Oklahoma FFA. Many thanks to them.

To voice all the blessings and friendships I have

encountered this year would be impossible. To put into retrospect the feeling of serving on this team, my thoughts turn to Dunn LeDoux. In his column in *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine he encouraged members to be happy and "Let the good times roll." This year we have been happy in our service to you. Thank you Dunn, for being a bright spot in our lives and living in a Walt Disney world of optimism.

Certainly in my final remarks I would like to pay tribute to my family. They have served as the source of energy from which I am charged. While attending the "Big E" fair in Massachusetts, I walked around the midway and one of the children's rides reminded me of my family. The ride was a battery-operated car on a track. My parents have been the vehicle of growth allowing me the freedom to choose my own speed and direction. When I began to venture off the track there were rails to gently guide me back on course. They have cushioned those rails with love and understanding. Thank you, Mom and Dad.

FFA members, in culminating the thoughts I wish to leave with you, I find myself holding on to the magic of this moment.

The final story I share with you is one of personal philosophy and is the inspiration behind this retiring address. One evening during a leadership conference for state officers in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, we went to an amusement park. There was something there for everyone: games, rides, dancing, and shopping. On the edge of the park stood a two-story building. The view from the balcony of the building was quite thought-provoking. Looking to the right I could see all of the park with its masses of people and brilliant lights. There were sounds of carnival music and the ocean air was filled with the aroma of hot dogs and cotton candy. To the left was the Atlantic Ocean, deep, dark, and tranquil. I stood pondering the irony of the situation: Two separate worlds side by side. Wanting to battle the feeling and rush of emotion, I began searching for symbolic meaning and applying it to life. On the left a large body of water stretching as far as the human eye could see. And then with just a glance, a colorful and busy amusement park.

The symbolism was clear. Every day we stand on the threshold of decision. Some choose the thrill of riding on life's roller coaster even with its twists and turns. Others with the will to win choose to drift along and soon are swallowed up in a sea of complacency. Certainly as I peered into a seemingly endless ocean it became evident that a great many people choose an ultimately unfavorable result while only a few decide to live in a "magical dream world." A world where people are equipped with a belief in themselves, their God, and their country. People living for today and working for tomorrow. A world whose motto is, "service above self." Is it a "magical dream world?" It is the rarity of that choice that makes it magic. Perhaps that is a simple thought, but truly a profound action. We always have a choice and inevitably, FFA members, the decision is yours.

My hope is that you will stand on the balcony of foresight. May you clearly see life and choose to live it magically. I am thankful that seven years ago I chose to be an FFA member. To serve you in this capacity has been a rare experience—one that will be stored in the attic of my mind. In my heart I will carry the spirit of agriculture and the FFA. And in my magic attic, FFA members, I will visit you often.

A Beacon in the Night

*I made my mark in life
And yet felt very proud
That the deed,
and not the title,
stayed so boldly in
the crowd.*

Throughout my year of service as a national FFA officer, I often asked the question, "How could I have the greatest impact on the people I love? How could I influence them the most?"

I thought about this a lot and now, as I prepare to leave you, I can call on an entire year's experiences to help and answer the question. I simply thought about all the members, advisors,

Mickey McCall
National FFA Vice President
Eastern Region
Balsam Grove, North Carolina

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Keep on Keepin' on!

*My greatest year has come and gone
but life ahead it looks so grand
And every day has molded me
into a better man.
With every day I'm learning
how life's ups and downs
But it's hard to look the world in
the eye if you're lying on the ground.*

*You've gotta keep on keepin' on when
things are going rough
I know it's never easy 'cause sometimes
life gets tough.
But if we look around and take our time
I believe we all will find
That if we keep on keepin' on
we'll always be on top!*

*I've been across this nation
you could say I've seen it all
Been in the midst when the farmers
had their backs against the wall
But with every seed I'm sowing
and with every turn I'm shown
It's the spirit of every one of you
that keeps me keepin' on!*

—1988 Jack Jones/Dunn LeDoux

Just words couldn't begin to express how I feel about the year that I have spent—no, not spent—but gained while serving you as a national officer. I just words wouldn't be adequate to communicate to you how much of an inspiration you, the members, have been as I've watched you. Keep on keepin' on!

Several weeks ago I had just returned home from a series of area leadership workshops in Missouri. The job that I had to accomplish was to compile my feelings and thoughts about this year into a few short minutes. Impossible, I thought. My good friend Jack Jones said "Dunn, why don't we write a song about your feelings about the year and the people you've met?" We sat down and talked about the wonderful people and what really made this the greatest year of my life.

We couldn't narrow it down to just one thing, but a combination of things. You have been an inspiration to me because of your diligence, persistence, and good attitude as you've striven to better yourselves and your chapters through the FFA. Also, you've taught me a valuable lesson about appreciating life and not taking things for granted. I dedicate this song to you.

The past twelve months have been a journey of joy for me as I've been with you as you strived for higher goals. Many of you won; many of you didn't. But you weren't losers, because the only losers are those who don't even try. The fantastic thing is that many of you, after placing second, would come up to me and say, "Dunn, I'll win next year, just you wait and see." It's that ability to get up, brush yourself off, and keep on keeping on that makes the difference.

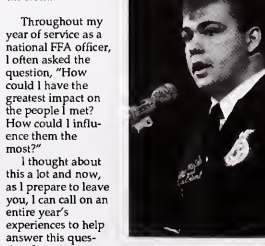
I made a difference for my ancestors, the Louisiana Cajuns. They were ousted from France and went to Nova Scotia to seek refuge. In Nova Scotia once again they were forced to pack up what little they owned and settle in Louisiana. In those days Louisiana was not a friendly place, filled with challenging terrain that tested the faith, determination, and perseverance of all new settlers. Many people died as a result of disease and sickness. If they didn't succumb to those challenges, there were still snakes and other natural dangers such as hurricanes and floods to deal with. With a faith in themselves and their God they survived, because they kept on keepin' on!

History books are filled with people who faced challenges and never gave up. John Nabor, a 1976 Olympic gold medal winner, said, "Most Olympic champions are just ordinary people who hang in there long enough to do extraordinary things." With the Summer Olympics in Seoul, South Korea, we heard hundreds of stories about

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Dunn LeDoux
National FFA Vice President
Southern Region
Denham Springs, Louisiana



Mickey McCall
National FFA Vice President
Eastern Region
Balsam Grove, North Carolina

National Agricultural Career Show

Thousands of FFA members and guests enthusiastically visited the National Agricultural Career Show's educational and promotional displays. A diversity of exhibitors, from major universities to National FFA Foundation sponsors, offered convention goers a taste of their purposes and opportunities.

Over the years, the show has become a highly popular convention activity. Starting with the grand opening on Tuesday, the FFA members took advantage of the many booths to learn more about agricultural opportunities.

Concession stands and seating were available along with National FFA Talent performers. The Hall of States, where each state association could set up a booth, was a drawing card for those interested in finding out more about FFA and other parts of the country.



The "electronic classroom" provided members a chance to sit down at a computer keyboard. (Photo by Andrew Markwart)



Expanding into the north half of H. Roe Bartle Hall for the first time, the National Agricultural Career Show featured 192 exhibitors. (Photo by Andy Markwart)

HALL OF STATES

Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, South Dakota and Wyoming

Exhibitors

Ag-Pac
Agri-Edata
Agri-Education
Agricultural Communicators
in Education
Agricultural Communicators
of Tomorrow
Alabama A & M University
Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity
American Angus Association
American Association of Nurserymen
American Breeders Service
American Cyanamid Company
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Fisheries Society
American Gelbvieh Association
American Institute of Cooperation
American International Charolais
Association
American Maine-Anjou Association
American Morgan Horse Institute
American Polled Hereford Association
American Quarter Horse Association
American Salers Association
American Simmental Association
American Veterinary Medical
Association
Amerifresh
Babson Bros. Co./SURGE
Bel-Rea Institute of Animal Technology
Briggs & Stratton Corporation
Bureau of the Census
CARQUEST, Inc.
Case IH
Chevrolet Motor Division
Christian Farmers Association
Coca-Cola, USA
Cornell University
Data Transmission Network
Deere & Co.
Delaware Valley
Delmar Publishers, Inc.

DHHS/PHS/FDA/HCB
Diversified Marketing Associates, Inc.
Farm & Industrial Equipment Institute
Farmhouse International Fraternity
Farmland Industries
Federal Crop Insurance
Florida Department of Citrus
Food & Drug Administration Center for
Veterinary Medicine
Ford Motor Company
Gordon Bernard Co., Inc.
Hampshire Swine Registry
ICI Americas Incorporated
IMC/Pitman Moore
Instructional Materials Laboratory
International Brangus Breeders
Association
Intertec Publishing Corporation
Iowa State University
Kaiser Agricultural Chemicals/Estech
(Divisions of Vigoro Industries, Inc.)
Kansas State University
Lakeshore Technical Institute
Lincoln University
Louisiana State University
Michigan State University
Mid-America Dairyman, Inc.
Mid-America Voc. Curriculum
Consortium (MAVCC)
Mobay Chemical Corp
Modesto Junior College
Na-Churs Plant Food Company
National Agricultural Aviation
Association
National Farm-City Council
National Farmers Organization
National Food and Energy Council
National Grain and Feed Association
National Guard Bureau
National High School Rodeo
Association

National FFA Organization Booths—
Agriculture Winner Displays
(Sponsored by Monsanto)
FFA Alumni
Building Our American
Communities
Information/Careers
The National FUTURE FARMER
Take Pride in America
Washington Conference Program
Work Experience Abroad
National Pork Producers Council
National Research Council Board on
Agriculture
National Rifle Association
National Vocational Agricultural
Teachers Association
National Young Farmer Educational
Association
Nickerson Plant Breeders
Northwest Missouri State University
Ohio State University
Oklahoma CIMC/MAVCC
Park College
Peace Corps
Pecan Valley Nut Company, Inc.
Penn State University
Puerto Rico College
Pioneer Hi-Bred
Purdue University
Remington Arms Company, Inc.
Rhône-Poulenc Ag Company
Rodale Institute
Ruritan National
Seal-Sweet Growers, Inc.
Select Sires, Inc.
Society of American Foresters
Society for Range Management
Soil & Water Conservation Society
South Western Publishing Co.
Southeast Community College

Southeast Community College—NE
Southern Illinois University
Southwestern Vocational Technical
Institute
Stone Mfg. Supply
Texas A&M University
Texas Tech University
The Society of American Foresters
Tri-State Breeders
U.S. Air Force
U.S. Army Recruiting Command
U.S. Marine Corps
U.S. Navy Recruiting Command
University of Alaska Fairbanks
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Illinois
University of Maryland
University of Minnesota
University of Missouri—Columbia
University of Nebraska—Lincoln
College of Agriculture
University of Wisconsin
Upjohn Company
USDA—Agricultural Marketing Service
USDA—Farmers Home Administration
USDA—Forest Service
USDA—Soil Conservation Service
USDA—Soil Conservation
Society—Educational Branch
USDA—Soil Conservation
Society—Recruitment
Virginia Tech
Vocational-Tech Education Consortium
of States
WIX Filters
Wildlife Society — Missouri Branch
Women's Christian Temperance
Association
Yamaha Motor Corp., USA

Proficiency Awards

Friday night's proficiency pageant was packed with excitement for the 116 members who were regional finalists.

Earlier in the week, these regional winners took part in interviews at the Allis Plaza Hotel during which judges chose the winners, and they attended a luncheon in their honor.

During the proficiency ceremony, 29 regional finalists were named national winners. Each received \$500, a plaque and a cash award to be used for travel to the convention. All national winners will also be the guests of their National FFA Foundation sponsors on the 1989 European Travel Seminar. Regional finalists each received \$250, a plaque and a cash travel award.

(•denotes award winners)



Twenty-nine national proficiency winners gathered on stage following Friday evening's exciting ceremony.

Agricultural Electrification

Sponsored by National Food & Energy Council, Incorporated; Klein Tools, Incorporated and LeaseAmerica Corporation

Central: Chad L. Reed, Canthage, Missouri
Eastern: Stokes D. McKay II, Salem, North Carolina
Southern: •Mark B. Jenkins, Milan, Tennessee
Western: Randall Gardner, Kaufman, Texas

Agricultural Mechanics

Sponsored by Case IH

Central: •Roger Nelson, Spencer, Nebraska
Eastern: Robert Wolff, Woodbury, Connecticut
Southern: Darren Carpenter, Mooresburg, Tennessee
Western: Noel Cowley, Richfield, Utah

Agricultural Processing

Sponsored by Carnation Company
Central: Eric Ripberger, Melamora, Indiana
Eastern: Scott Radford, Kinston, North Carolina
Southern: •Kory Hawkins, Sarasota, Florida
Western: Chad Gray, Durand, Oklahoma

Agricultural Sales and/or Service

Sponsored by Babson Bros. Co./SURGE, General Motors Corporation and ICI Americas, Incorporated/Ag Foods

Central: •Kurt M. Aumann, Nokomis, Illinois
Eastern: Bradley S. Webb, Fancy Gap, Virginia
Southern: Brian Echols, Lula, Georgia
Western: Jose R. Sallinas, Santa Maria, California

Beef Production

Sponsored by Nasco Division/Nasco International, Incorporated and American Simmental Association
Central: Richey Parkwood, Versailles, Kentucky
Eastern: Dennis Menefee, Boyce, Virginia
Southern: Johnny R. Rogers, Madisonville, Tennessee
Western: •Stephen Knutson, Clyde Park, Montana

Cereal Grain Production

Sponsored by Chrysler Motors Corporation and Unocal 76

Central: •Jeffrey S. Bauman, Berne, Indiana
Eastern: George L. Scott III, Milton, North Carolina
Southern: Darren G. Bruce, Oak Grove, Louisiana
Western: Joel Adams, Torrington, Wyoming

Dairy Production

Sponsored by Alfa-Laval Agri, Inc.; American Breeders Service; and Manna Pro Corporation
Central: Daniel Siemers, Cleveland, Wisconsin
Eastern: Irene G. Benner, Millerstown, Pennsylvania
Southern: Ginger Wilson, Cleveland, Tennessee
Western: •Jay Wilson, Yelm, Washington

Diversified Crop Production

Sponsored by Cargill, Incorporated
Central: Roger Camahan, Altamont, Kansas
Eastern: Morgan B. Ott III, Bealeton, Virginia
Southern: •Allen Lewis, Gates, Tennessee
Western: Jeff Stephens, Casa Grande, Arizona

Diversified Livestock Production

Sponsored by Wayne Feed Division/Continental Grain Company and Starbar Division of Zoexon Corporation
Central: •Robin M. Davis, Clarkson, Kentucky
Eastern: Randall L. Eisenhauer, Bellevue, Ohio
Southern: Matt Pearce, Okeechobee, Florida
Western: Kirk Oswald, Toppenish, Washington

Feed Grain Production

Sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Incorporated
Central: •Jeff Krieger, Greensburg, Indiana
Eastern: Dean Miller, Washington C.H., Ohio
Southern: Stephen C. Gindl, Cantonment, Florida
Western: Justin D. Johnson, Alton, Oklahoma

Fiber Crop Production

Sponsored by Sandoz Crop Protection Corporation
Central: David Mayberry, Dexter, Missouri
Eastern: •Wesley L. Barefoot, Dunn, North Carolina

Southern: Shannon D. Gray, Oak Grove, Louisiana
Western: Jason Herring, Tipton, Oklahoma

Floriculture

Sponsored by The Paul Ecke Poinsettia Ranch; The Lerio Corporation; and American Floral Endowment
Central: Michelle L. Schneider, Fort Wayne, Indiana
Eastern: William E. Syme, South Windsor, Connecticut
Southern: Rusty Hays, Opelika, Alabama
Western: •Gary Kidd, Roy, Washington

Forage Production

Sponsored by Gehl Company and Northrup King Company
Central: James Blakeley, Calhoun, Kentucky
Eastern: Robert R. Crabo Jr., Milton, North Carolina
Southern: David Johnson, Harrogate, Tennessee
Western: •Mario Flores, Chowchilla, California

Forest Management

Sponsored by Stone Container Corporation
Central: Mark Glasscock, Taylorsville, Kentucky
Eastern: Christopher A. Tignor, Milford, Virginia
Southern: •Al Griffin, Lineville, Alabama
Western: David Persell, Elma, Washington

Fruit and/or Vegetable Production

Sponsored by Briggs & Stratton Corporation Foundation, Incorporated
Central: Kurt D. Meyer, Kendallville, Indiana
Eastern: •Joey Bess, Arcadia, Ohio
Southern: Adrian I. Land, Branford, Florida
Western: Kyle Smith, Tipton, Oklahoma

Home and/or Farmstead Improvement

Sponsored by Upjohn, TUCO, Agrow, and O's Gold Agricultural Division of The Upjohn Company
Central: Allan P. Tiede, Le Center, Minnesota
Eastern: Tim Worley, Leicester, North Carolina
Southern: •Tim Thomas, Athens, Tennessee
Western: Tyler J. Boyd, Wheatland, Wyoming

Horse Proficiency

Sponsored by American Quarter Horse Association
Central: Todd Grider, Columbia, Kentucky
Eastern: Robert M. Hunt, Morrow, North Carolina
Southern: Steve Beam, Arab, Alabama
Western: •Jeff Harrison, Hugo, Oklahoma

Nursery Operations

Sponsored by MSD AGVET Division of Merck & Co., Inc.
Central: •Adam Schumacher, Heron Lake, Minnesota
Eastern: Lionel C. Theriault, Caribou, Maine
Southern: Nathan Walker, McMinnville, Tennessee
Western: Eric Slinson, Winlock, Washington

Oil Crop Production

Sponsored by The Chicago Board of Trade and FMC Foundation
Central: Greg Greenwell, Uniontown, Kentucky
Eastern: •Kirk Keeler, Athens, Ohio
Southern: Danny LeJaune, Jennings, Louisiana
Western: Joey C. McEntire, Agra, Oklahoma

Outdoor Recreation

Sponsored by Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A.
Central: •John W. Sherwood, Dadeville, Missouri
Eastern: William A. Nobili, Woodlawn, Virginia
Southern: Jason C. Stafford, Waverly, Tennessee
Western: Jason Watson, Ft. Bridger, Wyoming

Placement in Agricultural Production

Sponsored by DEKALB Genetics Corporation and Serus Rubber Company, Inc.
Central: Chad L. Alverson, Wayland, Michigan
Eastern: •Gregory A. Stull, Walkersville, Maryland
Southern: Anthony Curtis, McMinnville, Tennessee
Western: Rick Pack, Royal City, Washington

Proficiency Awards

Poultry Production

Sponsored by Chore-Time Equipment, Incorporated; Red Brand Fence/ Made by Keystone Steel & Wire Company; and Pitman-Moore, Inc.
 Central: •Steve K. Burkel, Greenbush, Minnesota
 Eastern: Greg Mabe, Seagrave, North Carolina
 Southern: Scott Griffin, Cleveland, Tennessee
 Western: Kirsten Olsen, Winlock, Washington

Sheep Production

Sponsored by American Sheep Producers Council, Incorporated; Justin Boot Company; and Kent Feeds, Inc. and Evergreen Mills, Inc.
 Central: •John T. Clark, Fomoso, Kansas
 Eastern: Travis L. Flehman, Sabina, Ohio
 Southern: Eric Dalton, Benton, Tennessee
 Western: Billy R. Copeland, St. Vrain, New Mexico

Soil and Water Management

Sponsored by Ford New Holland, Inc.
 Central: Kathy L. Keehn, Wetmore, Kansas
 Eastern: •Gene Starkey, Paris, Ohio
 Southern: Mark E. Hillis, McMinnville, Tennessee
 Western: Scott Barrington, Bradley, Oklahoma

Specialty Animal Production

Sponsored by Purina Mills, Incorporated; LeaseAmerica Corporation; and Country General Stores
 Central: Ronald R. Piechowski, Redgranle, Wisconsin
 Eastern: Justin Forward, Bockville, New York
 Southern: Chris Flanders, Kite, Georgia
 Western: •Brett Bonham, Cordell, Oklahoma

Specialty Crop Production

Sponsored by RJ Reynolds Tobacco Company
 Central: Glen Stiles, Deputy, Indiana
 Eastern: •Donald F. Lea Jr., Milton, North Carolina
 Southern: David Moyers, Speedwell, Tennessee
 Western: Timothy S. Wirth, Tangent, Oregon

Swine Production

Sponsored by Pfizer Incorporated/ Agricultural Division
 Central: Frank Niemeyer, Curryville, Missouri
 Eastern: Matthew M. Lantz, Fremont, Ohio
 Southern: •Derek W. Bartholomew, Huron, Tennessee
 Western: Darren DeLozier, Adair, Oklahoma

Turf and Landscape Management

Sponsored by O. M. Scott & Sons
 Central: Bradley S. Shuler, Smithville, Missouri
 Eastern: •Stephen Kelsoe, Winchester, Virginia
 Southern: Roger D. Skaggs, Bartlett, Tennessee
 Western: Steve Branan, Collinsville, Oklahoma

Wildlife Management

Sponsored by The Prudential Foundation
 Central: Shane Dailey, Clear Lake, South Dakota
 Eastern: •Rodney D. Williams, Biscoe, North Carolina
 Southern: Monty C. McWilliams, Halls, Tennessee
 Western: John H. Wright, Victoria, Texas

National FFA Contests



Forestry teams converged on Swope Park to test their identification skills. (Photo by Sam Harrel)



Meats judges took to the cooler at Safeway Distribution Center in Kansas City, Kan. (Photo by Sam Harrel)

Agricultural Mechanics

Sponsored by Firestone Trust Fund

First Place Team: Riceville, Iowa, Jacob Christensen, Greg Drilling, Kevin Ries

High Individual: Nelson Book, Miles, Texas

Dairy Cattle Judging

Sponsored by Associated Milk Producers, Incorporated and Babson Bros. Co./SURGE

First Place Team: Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, Jill Marti, Denise Marti, Rachelle Marti

High Individual: Ryan Starkenburg, Lynden, Washington

Dairy Foods

Sponsored by Mid-America Dairymen, Incorporated and Patz Sales Incorporated

First Place Team: Hanford, California, Katherine Thomsen, Gerra Searcy, Cindy Crose

High Individual: Cindy Crose, Hanford, California

Farm Business Management

Sponsored by John Deere

First Place Team: Westphalia, Missouri, Patrick Luebering, Leon Luebering, Rachelle Kuster

High Individual: Darin Anderson, Marshall, Minnesota

Floriculture

Sponsored by the National FFA Foundation General Fund

First Place Team: Yanceyville, North Carolina, Bryce Barker, Kelly Butler, Wendy Gammon

High Individual: Wendy Gammon, Yanceyville, North Carolina

A great many FFA members came to Kansas City with one thing on their minds: competition. These students of livestock, meats, dairy foods, forestry, horticulture, mechanics and business were eager to prove their expertise under pressure.

"This contest is a lot harder than our state contest," said Cole Everett, Prairie Grove, Ark., farm business management contestant. "I'd rather compete under all of this pressure than to have it easy."

All contestants were honored at banquets sponsored by their National FFA Foundation benefactors. At these meal functions, winning teams and individuals were announced. Each first place team received a trophy and team members were each presented with a plaque. The second through fifth place teams also received a plaque and all other teams received certificates ranking them as gold, silver or bronze. Individual scores were also recognized and these competitors received a medal or certificate of honorable mention.

Forestry

Sponsored by Homelite Division of Textron Inc. and Champion International Corporation

First Place Team: Lineville, Alabama, Eddie Duke, Brannon McDonald, David Price

High Individual: Holly Mock, Atlanta, Georgia

Livestock Judging

Sponsored by Purina Mills, Incorporated

First Place Team: Atascadero, California, Jeff Evans, Steve Mora, Michele Randall

High Individual: Michele Randall, Atascadero, California

Meats Judging

Sponsored by Geo. A. Hormel & Company and Oscar Mayer Foods Corporation

First Place Team: Olive, Oklahoma, Larry Allison, Danny Randolph, Roy Varnell

High Individual: Cathy Donaldson, Lind, Washington

Nursery/Landscape

Sponsored by American Association of Nurserymen, Kubota Tractor Corporation and Rhone-Poulenc Company

First Place Team: Vancouver, Washington, Phil Nienaber, Jenny Glass, Andy Price

High Individual: Phil Nienaber, Vancouver, Washington

Poultry

Sponsored by Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and Tyson Foods Inc.

First Place Team: Springdale, Arkansas, Jason Yates, Cammie Harp, Les Shepherd

High Individual: Les Shepherd, Springdale, Arkansas

Extemporaneous Speaking

Sponsored by American Farm Bureau Federation

In what has been described as one of the most challenging FFA contests, four regional winners took to the stage on Thursday afternoon to speak extemporaneously or "without rehearsal." Participants were allowed only 30 minutes for preparation of a topic drawn at random. Each then delivered a six-to-eight minute speech and answered questions posed by the panel of judges.

All four contestants received a plaque and a cash award. The winner received \$300, second place received \$275, third place received \$250 and fourth place was awarded \$200.

National Winner:

Steven D. Gibson, Bolivar Central, Tenn.

Second Place:

Larry Goetz, Cedar Mountain, Minn.

Third Place:

Linda Jo Bean, Stillwater, Okla.

Fourth Place:

Regina Williams, Linganore, Md.

"Preparing Agricultural Professionals to Work in a Global Agricultural Industry"

Steven Gibson, Tennessee

Today the American agricultural community is a very complex and complicated industry. No longer can the American farmer simply grow his crop, harvest it and then trade it to an investing nation. Today the American agricultural industry is faced with the dilemma of foreign competition by developing nations. Tariffs and quotas are placed on agricultural commodity products by foreign nations which want to protect their national farmers and by price support systems and subsidy programs which are plaguing the American farmer today.

Where can the American farmer turn? What must he be able to do to solve these problems which are so evident in his industry today? The answer lies in the ability of professional agriculturists to assist the American agricultural industry in becoming competitive once again in world markets.

Honorable judges, fellow Future Farmers and distinguished guests: how is America going to go about preparing agricultural professionals to work in a global agricultural industry? What qualities do these professionals need to possess in order to be effective in the marketplace when looking at the global aspects of the agricultural industry?

These agriculturists need to possess three basic attributes if they are going to be effective in helping the American agricultural industry. The first attribute that these professionals need to possess is that of working diplomatically with foreign nations. In the past two years the American farmer has seen an increase in agricultural exportations to foreign nations because of diplomacy.

In November of 1987 the USSR imported an additional 1.7 million metric tons of wheat and an additional 1.3 million metric tons of soybean meal from the United States. The reason for this was not because they had had a drought in their nation or that their people were going hungry, but it was a sign of friendship between the USSR and the United States.

Just recently Japan has decided to phase out its restrictions and quotas on the beef industry in America. Because of this three-year phase-out, the American beef industry can hope to sell an additional \$2 billion in beef exports in the next decade. The effects of diplomacy are astronomical.

The second attribute that these professionals must possess if they are going to help the American farmer is that of creating world markets in underdeveloped nations. It's been estimated that the world population will increase by 450 million people in the next six decades and that 90 percent of these people will inhabit poor, impoverished nations. It has also been estimated that 90 percent of the American farmers and the American agricultural industry's markets will come from these same impoverished nations.

If the American agricultural industry hopes to survive the 21st Century he must not only be efficient, but he must be able to capitalize on these increasing markets. And the way that he must do that is through the assistance of trained professional agriculturists.

These professionals must be able to go into these foreign nations and set up a trading system which would be beneficial to both the American farmer and the

foreign nation. A system of bartering is such a system that will be efficient and will work in helping establish trade between the Americans and these foreign nations.

The third attribute that is very important to the success story of the American agricultural industry is that of these professionals working hand-in-hand domestically with the American agricultural industry in helping them get out from underneath the control of subsidy and price-support systems and in once again producing on a supply-and-demand basis.

Because the American farmer has gone away from producing on supply and demand, he has seen, over the years, his surplus increase to a point that the real price for his products has been diminished greatly. He is watching foreign competitors sell his product markets away because his price is simply too high.

These trained agriculturists need to work with the American farmer in developing a new marketing system. They need to show the American farmer the power of cooperative marketing and supply-and-demand economics.

Most people feel the American agricultural industry is on the downhill side of the mountain and that it won't be long till we'll see a restructuring of the American family farm and many agricultural industries. But if the agriculturists and the agricultural industry will assist the American farmer and others in his industry, the American farmer will not only survive the 21st Century, but he will come out of it being the most successful farmer in the most successful industry in the world.

Building Our American Communities

Sponsored by RJR Nabisco, Inc.

Gold, silver and bronze emblems were presented to chapters who put forth outstanding efforts in community development. Recognition of The Building Our American Communities (BOAC) award winners was a proud moment for chapter representatives as they made their way across the convention stage.

Also recognized on stage were the BOAC national winners who had been awarded their honors at a Capitol Hill luncheon held in October in Washington, D.C. National winner, the Marion County chapter from Farmington, West Virginia, was applauded for its efforts to stimulate economic activity. Chapter members constructed a tourist center to promote tourism.

Second place winner, Westminster, Colorado, "xeriscaped" a 16,000-square-foot community garden.

Xeriscaping is the process of landscaping for energy and water conservation. Third place winner Bartlett, Tennessee, took part in a project that involves the work of 15 civic organizations: preserving the historic Raleigh Cemetery.

Ravenna, Nebraska, fourth place winner, chose the theme "Ravenna—Maintaining the Quality of Life" as the umbrella for their projects. These included involvement in LIFELINE, a 24-hour communications system for the elderly.

Elizabeth Morgan of Raton, New Mexico, was recognized as the national Achievement in Volunteerism winner.

GOLD

ALABAMA: Fairhope; Jacksonville "Gold";

Opelika

CALIFORNIA: Fresno Unified

COLORADO: Westminster

FLORIDA: Colonial; Taylor Senior

ILLINOIS: Cissna Park; DeKalb; Franklin

Center; Somonauk-Leland; Warsaw

INDIANA: Carroll Fort Wayne

IOWA: Algona; Buffalo Center Bison; Crestland;

Holland; Klemme; Lake View-Auburn; Marengo;

North Polk; Prairie; Sibley; Webster City

KANSAS: Clay Center; Colleyville; Concordia

MICHIGAN: St. Louis

MINNESOTA: Luverne; Marshall

MISSISSIPPI: East Marion

MISSOURI: Owensville

NEBRASKA: Ravenna

NEW MEXICO: Raton

OHIO: Bowling Green; River Valley; Wauseon;

West Muskingum

OKLAHOMA: Billings; Moore; Morrison

SOUTH CAROLINA: Loris

SOUTH DAKOTA: Elton

TENNESSEE: Bartlett; Lexington

TEXAS: Ysleta

UTAH: North Sevier

VIRGINIA: Montevideo Intermediate; Strasburg

WASHINGTON: Bethel; Elma; Mabton; Yelm

WEST VIRGINIA: Marietta; Marion; St. Marys

WISCONSIN: Denmark; Evansville; Marion;

Monroe; Palski

WYOMING: Devils Tower

SILVER

ALABAMA: Grand Bay; J. R. Pittard Area

Vocational

ARIZONA: Kola; Peoria

CALIFORNIA: Anderson Valley; Kingsburg

COLORADO: Dolores

CONNECTICUT: Leydard Regional

FLORIDA: Apopka Memorial Middle

GEORGIA: Perry

IDAHO: Kuna

ILLINOIS: Bluffs; Chicago Ag Science; Clinton;

Egyptian; Georgetown-Ridge Farm; Sycamore;

Utah; Westmer; Winchester

INDIANA: Woodlan

IOWA: Charles City; Harlan; Sheldon Golden

Corn; West Bend Hawkeye

KANSAS: Markato

KENTUCKY: Lyon County; Oldham County;

Spencer County

MARYLAND: Clear Spring

MICHIGAN: Breckenridge; Marshall

MINNESOTA: Morris FFA/Agriculture

MISSOURI: Union

NEBRASKA: Franklin; Prague; Schuyler

NEW JERSEY: Cumberland Regional

NEW MEXICO: Goddard

OHIO: Bowling Green; River Valley; Wauseon;

West Muskingum

OKLAHOMA: Billings; Moore; Morrison

SOUTH CAROLINA: Loris

SOUTH DAKOTA: Elton

TENNESSEE: Bartlett; Lexington

TEXAS: Ysleta

UTAH: North Sevier

VIRGINIA: Montevideo Intermediate; Strasburg

WASHINGTON: Bethel; Elma; Mabton; Yelm

WEST VIRGINIA: Marietta; Marion; St. Marys

WISCONSIN: Denmark; Evansville; Marion;

Monroe; Palski

WYOMING: Devils Tower

BRONZE

ALABAMA: Ider; Jacksonville "Blue"; Robert C.

Hatch

ALASKA: North Pole

ARKANSAS: Greene County Technical;

Lonoke; Stuttgart

CALIFORNIA: Polytechnic; Westminster

CONNECTICUT: Housatonic Valley

DELAWARE: McKeen; Millrod

FLORIDA: Moore Haven; Silver Sands Junior

GEORGIA: Newton County

HAWAII: Waialeale; Waialua

INDIANA: Clinton Center; North Montgomery;

Shenandoah; Southwest-Hanover

KANSAS: Centralia; Norton; Tonganoxie;

Wamego; Williamsburg

LOUISIANA: Crowley; Hahnway; Oak Grove

MAINE: Caribou; Limestone

MASSACHUSETTS: Essex; Silver Lake

MINNESOTA: Glencoe; Lake Crystal-Wellcome

Memorial; Lanesboro

MISSOURI: Carroll Area Vo-Tech; El Dorado

Springs; Keyesville; Slater; South Shelby;

Stockton

MONTANA: Fairfield; Joliet

NEBRASKA: Loup City

NEVADA: Ruby Mountain-Eiko

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Coe-Brown Much-To-Do

NEW JERSEY: Newton

NEW YORK: Lisbon

NORTH CAROLINA: Mount Pleasant; North

Irrel; Southern Alamance; West Montgomery

NORTH DAKOTA: Bolineau

OREGON: North Marion-Weston-McEwen

PENNSYLVANIA: Brothersvalley; Cedar Crest;

Grassland; Greenwood; Oley Valley; Twin

Valley

RHODE ISLAND: Slatute

SOUTH CAROLINA: Central; Furman-

Manchester

UTAH: Lehi

VERMONT: Central Vermont; Danville

VIRGINIA: Bluestone Middle; Culpeper Junior;

Fort Delance

WISCONSIN: Black Hawk; Green Bay Preble;

Janesville Parker; Turtle Lake; Viola-Kickapoo

WYOMING: Bear Lodge; Gillette

Prepared Public Speaking



Danny Grellner grabs the attention of the audience with his speech. (Photo by Andy Markwart)

Sponsored by FMC Foundation

Four regional winners competed in the national finals of the prepared speaking contest on Friday night. Regional competitions earlier in the week narrowed the field, and in the finals each contestant presented a six-to-eight minute speech before answering questions from a panel of judges.

Each finalist received a plaque and cash award. The national winner received \$300, second place received \$275, \$250 went to the third place winner and fourth place received \$200.

National Winner:

Danny Grellner, Kingfisher, Okla.

Second Place:

Laurie Sheridan, Federal Hocking, Ohio

Third Place:

Jon Brekke, St. James, Minn.

Fourth Place:

Kelly Denise O'Neill, Chiefland, Fla.

"The Pursuit of Destiny," Danny Grellner, Oklahoma

He was a man with a dream. A dream so vivid and compelling that it caused him to leave home alone at the age of seventeen. In 1903, as he embarked on his journey across the Atlantic into the unknown, he was confident of not only his purpose, but also his abilities to fulfill that purpose. Yet, as his voyage was drawing to a close, he was forced to deal with the reality of uncontrollable fear. Doubts assailed his consciousness while panic was threatening to choke his thoughts and his dream. He questioned past decisions and worried about unanswered dilemmas. How would he communicate, for he spoke only German? Where would he go? How would he get there?

Then he saw his towering in the harbor. She held a book and a torch in her hands. A crown was on her head, and a broken chain lay at her feet. Her mere presence renewed his confidence. His dream continued to live.

In pursuit of destiny, like thousands of other immigrants, he had a dream. A dream that was not uncommon, but rather a global experience shared by mankind even today. This vision for the future consists of not simply monetary wealth, but human worth. Although several words approximate the definition such as freedom, liberty, and opportunity, it is a dream that is difficult to describe.

The young man must have had these thoughts and many more. Yet, this was more than just a story, and he was more than a nameless drifter. His name was Henry Muegenberg, my great-grandfather, and I am living testimony of his desire to achieve freedom. His dream seemed as boundless as the ocean, and his journey resembled a Quixotic adventure; yet he continued to pursue his destiny.

The outset of this decade marked an American farmer who appeared to be involved in a foolhardy quest for survival. Agriculturalists had been placed in a row between victory and black-clad murderers. With one false touch the initial collision began, and the lingering sound of the continuous staccato of collisions is evident today. The chain reaction of the fall of American agriculture began on the family farms. It quickly spread to the agricultural companies, rural communities, and even metropolitan areas.

More recently, Americans have silently watched the United States grow to become the largest debtor nation in history with a trade deficit in excess of one hundred billion dollars for 1988. Even Wall Street has demonstrated tentative tendencies

toward our economy. No longer is October 29, 1928 known as the largest one-day drop in the market, for October 19, 1987 replaces the previous date and now holds the dubious distinction of being known as Black Monday. Finally, the drought of 1988, perceived by many to be the worst in history, has also added to the distress of farmers that are currently in dire straits.

While American agriculture has been experiencing strife, today, as I stand here before you, I can honestly say that despite the difficulties and frustrations of the current moment in American agriculture, the dream still exists: the dream of agriculture becoming and remaining a viable and competitive industry.

The capitalistic economy is a harsh and brutal world and one in which the meek rarely survive. However, the surviving agriculturalist must either adapt to the adversity or face eventual extinction. Adjusting to adversities could possibly be achieved by exploring a variety of "alternatives" which offer immediate savings.

Exciting developments for agriculture are caused by the advancements of limitless research and technology. The practical application of research can increase the profit margin for both agricultural production and processing. Even though biotechnical advances combined with alternative agriculture allow the farmer to profit in a nontraditional manner, it still must be recognized that these new breakthroughs alone will not save the farm. As former North Carolina Governor Robert Scott stated, "We must remember that technology is a tool, not a solution."

The exploration of alternatives and the utilization of advanced technology are extremely necessary to the long-term survival of agriculture. However, salvation for farmers currently experiencing difficulties could depend upon the course of future agriculture policy and the recognition of current opportunities. As an FFA member, I am optimistic about tomorrow's recognition of current opportunities. As an FFA member, I am optimistic about tomorrow's agriculture, and I believe that now is the time for the future agriculturalist to start the acquisition of assets! For example, deflated land values and the availability of used implements allows for a buyer's market. Modest interest rates are simply an added attraction. Subtle changes in governmental policies combined with unexpected benefits for world trade suggest the coming of a more competitive industry.

For agriculture to realize a more prosperous future, the distortion of commodity prices by governmental subsidies must be eliminated. Yes, creating a market-oriented agriculture is an admirable goal, but one that will require global cooperation for the farmer to be competitive.

Liberalizing trade has been an ambitious objective of the United States for 1988. In fact, during July, the United States took part in multilateral trade negotiations for international commitments of subsidy reductions. President Reagan has stated that the administration desires "to achieve the goal of free agricultural markets around the world by the year 2000." Ten years of phasing out subsidies beginning in 1990 would be extremely beneficial for American agriculture in the long term, even though immediate results could be disastrous for operators who are currently struggling for survival. The newly-elected president and his administration could prove to be a wild card; still, a smooth transition along with policy consistency are the keys.

Dramatic new possibilities for international trade are looming on the horizon as the dollar has reached an all-time low in foreign markets. Additionally, the dollar has dropped a total of forty-six percent since 1985 in comparison to the Japanese yen. The weak American dollar increases the buying power of foreign currencies and should unleash foreign demand. Finally, the prospect of increased trade coupled with reduced stockpiles of grain causes one to believe that the potential for agriculture in the future is brilliant.

An athlete often lifts weights in order to increase strength, but the human body is a unique machine. For a muscle to gain strength, it must first fail. Unfortunately failure on a number of agriculturalists is eminent, but lasting strength will be derived from each failure.

Much like that young German immigrant in 1903, young people today dare to dream. My dream consists of an industrious, healthy, and vibrant agriculture. The future holds a myriad of opportunity, but only for those who will risk failure. To paraphrase the late Robert Kennedy, "Only those who are willing to dare great risk will reap great rewards. We Americans view the future, not as a fate to be passively accepted, but as a bold vision to be realized. By blending the opportunities of today and the visions of tomorrow, we can build a healthier future while continuing the pursuit of destiny."

Guest Speakers and Friends

Gretchen Elizabeth Carlson, Miss America 1988, sponsored by Chevrolet; Denis Waitley; Ron Wilson, Committee on Agricultural Education in Secondary Schools, Board on Agriculture, National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences; Dr. Bonnie Guiton, Assistant Secretary for Vocational and Adult Education, USDE; Craig Patterson, Group Product Marketer, Commercial Products Division, Amway Corporation; Kevin Davis and Tom Schlesinger, members of 1988 USA

Men's Olympic Gymnastics Team; John Block, former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture; The Moody Brothers and The Platters, entertainers for Take Pride in America; Lowell Catlett, sponsored by Farmland Industries, Inc.; Dr. Earl Butz, sponsored by ConAgra, Inc.; Michael Broome, inspirational and motivational speaker; Jerry Clower, sponsored by Mississippi Chemical Company; Eddie Rabbitt, American Royal entertainer.



Dr. Lowell Catlett addressed the future of agriculture and biotechnology. His appearance was sponsored by Farmland Industries, Inc. (Photo by Andy Markwart)

Business

Amendments

Wednesday's business session was a showcase in FFA cooperation as delegates voted overwheemingly to update FFA's image.

Not since 1969, when delegates voted to accept female members, has FFA debated significant constitutional change. At the 61st convention, 19 amendments were presented to the delegates. These amendments were the result of two years work by the National Study Panel on the Constitution and Bylaws chaired by Raymond D. Hagan, former state executive secretary from Missouri.

Key: * denotes passed amendments.

- *1. Change the organization's name from "Future Farmers of America" to "National FFA Organization"
- *2. Change the words "vocational agriculture" to "agricultural education"
- *3. Change the words "supervised occupational experience programs" to "supervised agricultural experience programs"
- *4. Remove redundant language regarding withdrawal of a state's charter
- *5. Expand the definition of secondary agricultural education programs to include grades 7-12
- *6. Remove the word "farmer" from degree names and insert "FFA"
- *7. Require that chapter FFA degree candidates have at least 180 hours of instruction, at least \$150 earned and invested or at least 45 hours in excess of scheduled class time, and plans for continued growth in a supervised agri-

cultural experience program

- *8. Increase the dollar amount for State FFA Degree candidates from \$500 to \$1000 and reduce the number of work hours required from 600 to 300

- *9. Abolish the State FFA Degree quota system and allow states to determine how many degrees to award

- *10. Allow American FFA Degree candidates to qualify based on a combination dollar/hour criteria as allowed for the chapter and state degrees

- *11. Change the number of American FFA Degree candidates a state can submit beyond their quota to 10 from five

- *12. On the emblem, change the words "vocational agriculture" to "agricultural education"

- *13. Allow states and chapters to elect more than six officers

- 14. Provide that each state gets two national convention delegates plus one additional delegate for each 5,000 members or major fraction thereof above the first 5,000

- *15. Adopt the grammatical and incidental amendments recommended by the National Study Panel on the Constitution and Bylaws

- *16. Indicate that the principal office of FFA is in the Department of Education, but that operations take place at the National FFA Center in Alexandria, Va.

- *17. Increase the terms served by board members from two to three years

- *18. Allow the national advisor to fill a board vacancy left by a USDE representative

- *19. Adopt the miscellaneous and incidental amendments to the bylaws

Delegates

Official delegates represented their states' interests in business sessions and enjoyed a front-row seat during the entire convention. In addition to voting on proposed changes to the constitution, producing committee reports and electing new national officers, the delegates experienced a highlight of their terms as state officers by playing key roles in the convention.

ALABAMA: Shane Black, Athens; Kim Sanders, Prattville; Mindy Stringer, Castleberry
ALASKA: Ann Powalski, Two Rivers; Carrie Wilson, North Pole
ARIZONA: Neil Scheider, Peoria; Amy Scott, Chinle

ARKANSAS: Nina R. Laughlin, Conway; Renea Roberts, Wickes
CALIFORNIA: Wendi L. Adams, Clovis; Kathy M. Almond, Rio Oso; Joshua F. Cook, Gridley; Roland J. Fumasi, Galt

COLORADO: Clark Miller, LaSalle; Brent Newbanks, Yuma

CONNECTICUT: Christopher Coutu, Lebanon; Jeanne Harris, Somers
DELAWARE: Shelly Apha, Frankford; Keith Shane, Smyrna

FLORIDA: Wesley Davis, Vero Beach; Mike Swindle, Clewiston
GEORGIA: Stewart Humphrey, Lavonia; Ray Mancil, Nicholls

HAWAII: Jackelyn Pascual, Kohala; Jocelyn Manuel, Kohala

IDaho: Casey Isom, Fruitland; Angie Tlucek, Melba

ILLINOIS: Corey Torrance, Good Hope; Jon Van Dyke, Louisville

INDIANA: John Colin, Trafalgar; Scott Dunn, Trafalgar
IOWA: Bill A. Belzer, Albia; Timothy W. Teel, Woodburn

KANSAS: Dennis Fry, Fort Scott; Jackie McClaskey, Girard

KENTUCKY: Shannon Morgan, Alvaton; Dana A. Tucker, Har-dinsburg

LOUISIANA: Jody Adams, Winnfield; Paul Theriot, Iowa

MAINE: Brent Grass, Mars Hill; Linwood Winslow, Presque Isle

MARYLAND: Daria Broadwaler, Grantsville; Stacey Troxell, Thurmont

MASSACHUSETTS: Donna Bishop, Carver; Joseph Cote, Winchendon

MICHIGAN: Susan Malburg, Almont; Tom Nugent, Lowell

MINNESOTA: Chris Henning, Okabena; Dean Von Bank, Clara City

MISSISSIPPI: Shawn Oliver, Madison; Susan Watkins, York

MISSOURI: Chnst Hart, Center; Glen Waters, Norborne

MONTANA: Sara Houglen, Meisloner; Stephen Knulson, Clyde Park

NEBRASKA: Julie Klassen, Ayr; Eric Thurber, Roma

NEVADA: Gary Aida, Minden; Kevin Helrick, Orvada

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Marc Roullier, Guildhall; Patrick Surrill, Keene

NEW JERSEY: Dan Berg, Cream Ridge; Michael Iannelli, Belvidere

NEW MEXICO: Randy Bouldin, Portales; David Massey, Edgewood

NEW YORK: Ron Langley, Ham-mond; Todd Lighthall, Munnsville

NORTH CAROLINA: Heather Dunham, Cary; James S. McLamb, Angier; N. Scott Vanhoy, Gold Hill

NORTH DAKOTA: Shane Goettle,

Donnybrook; Tom Lija, Larimore
OHIO: Travis Fiehmman, Sabina; Elisabeth Rodgers, Springfield; Laurie Sheridan, Athens

OKLAHOMA: Danny Greiner, Kingfisher; Scott Stewart, Tecumseh; Janel Wedman, Yukon

OREGON: Scott Ruby, Scio; Brian Van Bergen, Amity

PENNSYLVANIA: Leon Halsey, Marheim; Jim Ladlee, Smealport

PUERTO RICO: Griselle Gereima, Camuy; Marisol Vilabos, Ciales

RHODE ISLAND: Sherri Foster, Bradford; Julie Telt, West Greenwich

SOUTH CAROLINA: Gernie Lou Capps, Hemingway; George L. Ulmer, Cope

SOUTH DAKOTA: Lee Frieson, Menno; Mike Jaspers, Eden

TENNESSEE: Leah Carden, Johnson City; Ruby Williams, Reagan

TEXAS: Donnell Brown, Throckmor-ton; Lessa Ann King, Howe; Rennie Laid, Lubbock; Ellen Lumpkin, College Station; Glen Alan Phillips, Seagraves; Keith Reep, Blossom

UTAH: Shad Sorenson, Oakley; Mike Thomson, Spanish Fork

VERMONT: Robert Gervais, Enosburg Falls; Amy Pease, Tunbridge

VIRGINIA: Cindy Fannon, Charlotte Courthouse; Scott Lilly, Mechanicsville

WASHINGTON: J. D. Baser, Mabton; Aaron Johnson, Enumclaw

WEST VIRGINIA: Jason Hughes, Ravenswood; David Sharp, Marlinton

WISCONSIN: Bryan Higgins, Antigo; Bobbi Jo Oyen, Lodi; Michelle Waeger, Tomah

WYOMING: Stephen Green, Pine Bulls; Tina Guesli, Hawk Springs



Business

Committee Reports

Alumni

We express our gratitude to Woody Cox, John Hillison, Mildred Moore and Jim Sipiorski for valuable contributions to our committee. We have been enlightened by the knowledge that these individuals have given us. The development of FFA Alumni affiliates throughout the country will aid in the preservation and promotion of agricultural education.

We suggest and support the following items:

1. Include Alumni programs and presentations at National Leadership Conference for State Officers. This will allow the National Alumni to reveal information and resources available to state officers so they can become better educated about the organization. This will also promote a better understanding between FFA and the FFA Alumni and their role in supporting agricultural education.

2. Initiate programs at the Washington Conference Program (WCP) which will be educational. This will also inform the Alumni about the FFA and its activities. We encourage the conference staff to include programs that will be motivational and educational for the alumni members present.

3. State FFA conventions and state FFA Alumni conventions should be separate functions. This would allow the alumni to give 100 percent support at both the state FFA convention and the State alumni convention. States with smaller alumni organizations may choose to hold their state Alumni convention in conjunction with the state FFA convention. We feel confident that this will increase the alumni attendance at both conventions.

4. Increase Membership through the visibility of the

FFA alumni. We feel *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine, along with state and local publications should allow the promotion of FFA alumni through articles and advertisements. We thank *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine for allowing the publication of alumni information. We encourage them to run an alumni article in each issue in conjunction with "Chapter Scoop". We also encourage state associations and local chapters to send correspondence.

5. When alumni dues are paid, alumni should then have opportunity to purchase a *National FUTURE FARMER* subscription.

6. Place articles in *BETWEEN ISSUES* to encourage chapter advisors to start alumni affiliates.

The national organization, state associations and local chapters should send information regarding membership and lifetime membership to graduating students and adult vocational education groups. Due to the examples set by national and state FFA officers, we encourage them to become lifetime alumni members.

The alumni is ready and willing to continue their support of FFA and agricultural education. We highly encourage chapter participation in all alumni activities. We sincerely believe that if implemented, these items would benefit the FFA as well as the Alumni Organization.

Respectfully submitted,
Leah D. Carden, TN (C)
Bryan Higgins, WI (C)
John Colin, IN (S)
Dale Kunneman, OK
Jocelyn Manvel, HI
Bill Belzer, IA
Jason Hughes, WV
Woody Cox (Consultant)
John Hillison (Consultant)
Mildred Moore (Consultant)
James Sipiorski (Consultant)

Auditing

We recommend to the National FFA Organization:

1. The audit report of Sloy, Malone and Company, found satisfactory and meeting the requirements of Public Law 740 for the fiscal year September 1, 1987 to August 31, 1988, be accepted.

2. Place a copy of the budget summary in the delegate convention package sent to the official delegates and the state FFA staff before arrival in Kansas City and provide upon request copies of the National FFA Organization Budget from the National FFA Center.

3. Continue to distribute a condensed financial report in each delegate package that is received upon registration in Kansas City and encourage these delegates to share this information with their fellow state officers.

4. Continue to provide upon request copies of the Sloy, Malone and Company report from the National FFA Center.

We feel that these recommendations will provide a sound basis for the financial growth of the National FFA Organization.

Special thanks to David Miller, national treasurer, and Wilson Carnes, administrative director, National FFA Center, for all of your help and advice concerning our committee's work.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Swindle, FL (C)
Dana Tucker, KY (CC)
Neil Schneider, AZ
Clark A. Miller, CO
Keith Shane, DE
Ann Marie Powalski, AK
Ellen Lumpkin, TX
Elisabeth Rodgers, OH

International

We make these recommendations:

1. Publicize the new video entitled "A World Journey", in order to encourage use by state associations as well as by local chapters.

2. Compile a list of exchange students from the United States and participants from inbound countries who are willing to make presentations at various state and local functions.

3. Update International Programs booklet to include: Work Experience Abroad; World AgriScience Studies; and travel seminars and developing projects, in a style similar to the BOAC and Food for America brochures. The new booklet should be funded by various sponsors and provided free of charge through the FFA Supply Service catalog.

4. Encourage Washington Conference Program staff members to allot time for International interns and staff members to deliver presentations on international programs.

5. Make posters available which would spark an interest in various International programs to local chapters.

6. Publicize International programs through *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine, FFA Alumni Association Newsletter, *BETWEEN ISSUES*, and *UPDATE* in order to encourage participation among members and to develop a list of potential host families.

7. Inform state officers and state staff members of International programs at National Leadership Conferences for State Officers, including the new video and the revised International program booklet.

8. Initiate a Building Our International Communities Program (BOIC).

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Morgan, KY (C)
Angie Tlucek, ID (CC)
Tony Young, VA (S)
James R. Ladlee, PA
Timothy W. Teel, IA
Russell Laird, TX
Wendi Adams, CA
Dennis Fry, KS
Scott Ryckman (Consultant)

Membership Development and Retention

We bring forth the following recommendations:

1. That state and national leaders develop and implement a "unified" curriculum that will serve the needs of students, not only in production agriculture, but also non-production areas including agribusiness, management, marketing and technology.

2. That the national organization make an effort to coordinate and improve the advertising and marketing of this organization in the areas of membership recruitment, development and retention.

3. That collegiate chapters expand and improve their programs, and utilize their skills to aid in high school membership recruitment.

4. That future agricultural classroom instructors have increased exposure to our organization's programs, purposes and activities.

5. That an incentive program for states with increased membership be developed.

6. That a feasible method to increase the academic accreditation received from agricultural courses be developed.

7. That the national organization develop a specialized program catering to the 7th and 8th grade membership, and activities and awards for them.

We thank the national officer team for making membership recruitment and development a priority. We are confident that by implementing the recommendations cited in this report, that national FFA membership will increase, thus helping to sharpen "Agricultures Leading Edge".

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Stewart, OK (C)
Nina Laughlin, AR (CC)
Tina Guest, WY (S)
Joe Cole, MO
Wesley Davis, FL
Aaron Johnson, WA
Susann Malburg, MI
Marisol Villalobos, PR
Eddie Smith (Consultant)
Richard Strangeway (Consultant)
Jack Pitzer (Consultant)



Business

Committee Reports

National Awards

We have reviewed Achievement; Building Our American Communities (BOAC); National Chapter; National Chapter Safety and Proficiency Awards; and the Degree Program. We support the following recommendations:

1. Provide information about the Achievement Award Program to state officers, and discuss the program at National Leadership Conference for State Officers and promote it on the state level.

2. We advocate the importance of the BOAC program and commend the RJR Nabisco Foundation for their continued support.

3. Continue distribution of BOAC information, and encourage state officers to stress the filing of applications by chapters.

4. We encourage FFA members to become involved in the Take Pride in America program.

5. Develop additional national safety programs, such as the "Brand 'Em" campaign.

6. Explore more sponsorship for the National Chapter and National Chapter Safety programs.

7. We recommend that permanent national staff address the Awards Committee of the 62nd National FFA Convention concerning American FFA Degree quotas and minimum qualifications.

8. Re-evaluate the 29 proficiency award areas and implement new proficiency awards such as computers in agriculture, public relations, and agrimarketing.

9. Standardize national criteria for issue to states concerning BOAC, National

Chapter and National Safety Chapters, to be followed on all levels.

10. Brief the chairman, co-chairman and consultant by conference call before they reach Kansas City so that more information may be brought.

11. We stress that committees should spend more time addressing specific issues of their committees before making recommendations (in order that they be qualified members.)

12. Provide access to the past five years' committee reports for committee members because programs are based on a five-year schedule.

13. We stress the fact that if these recommendations are to be beneficial to our organization, the responsibility lies with you, the state FFA officer, in promoting activities on the chapter level.

14. We appreciate our sponsors and encourage all members to write thank you notes to these dedicated individuals and companies.

We also extend a word of appreciation to our consultants Bob Seefeldt, program specialist-awards, and Kim Balfe, staff intern, National FFA Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Jaspers, SD (C)
Kim Sanders, AL (CC)
Christi Hart, MO (S)
Joshua Cook, CA
Claudia Kaneshiro, HI
Scott Vanhoy, NC
Travis Fleichman, OH

National Contests

We bring forth the following recommendations.

1. Maintain efforts by the board of directors to promote contest opportunities and participation.

2. Update current and future contests by including updated tests dealing with new technical developments in that area of agricultural industry.

3. Periodically evaluate all contests to determine their suitability due to the evolution of agriculture.

4. Once policy has been established for adding, deleting, or changing contests, we recommend the following possible national contests be researched: agribusiness management, agrimarketing, agriscience, computers, parliamentary procedure, horse judging, crops judging, land use judging, and wool.

5. We recommend that first consideration be given to agrimarketing and agribusiness contests.

6. Consider other dates and sites for national contests when it is not feasible to hold the contest(s) in Kansas City during the national convention. If such a situation should arise, we also recommend that the winner(s) of that contest be awarded a trip to the national convention and that they be recognized as the national winners.

7. We agree with the National FFA Contest Study Committee with reservation on recommendations 4, 7, 12, 14 and 15.

We express our thanks to the committee, particularly Chairman Kirby Barrick of Ohio State University, for all their efforts throughout the course of the past two years on national contest issues.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Classen, NE (C)
Kathy Almond, CA (CC)
Roni Langtry, NY (S)
Kevin Heinrich, NV
Marc Routhier, NH
Gayla Littrell, IL
Leon Heisey, PA
Shelly Atha, DE
K. C. Beavers (Consultant)

The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine

We, on behalf of the membership of the National FFA Organization, wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine staff and commend them on a job well done.

After intense discussion and organized planning, we submit the following suggestions.

1. State associations compile information for regional highlight departments, including photos and articles on their respective states for the *National FUTURE FARMER* staff.

2. State officers are requested to compile information at chapter visits to send to "Chapter Scope".

3. Graduating seniors are encouraged to continue membership after high school in the FFA and subscribe to the magazine in order to stay informed about FFA issues.

4. The following ideas for articles were recommended for future issues: features on current agricultural issues dealing with domestic and international economics that might affect FFA members and new innovations in science and agricultural technology.

5. If members are not receiving their magazines, or would like to receive the magazine at home, they should consult their chapter advisor and request to have it sent directly to their home.

6. Members are to be encouraged to send in artwork, photographs, etc. for publication. It will also be noted that feature articles may be submitted by any member.

Respectfully submitted,
Lesla Ann King, TX (C)
Cindy Fannon, VA (CC)
Michael Iannitelli, NJ (S)
Jeanine Harris, CT
Lee J. Friesen, SD
Amy Scott, AZ
Rudolph Pieters, VI
Casey Isom, ID
David Sharp, WV
Andrew Markwart
(Consultant)
Glenn D. Luedke
(Consultant)

National FFA Supply Service

We commend the National FFA Supply Service on an excellent job of providing quality products, exceptional service and progressive improvements. We also commend the service in their choice of a new 1988 catalog cover with bright blue colors and the picture of the national officers.

We recommend the following new items:

1. Blue corduroy vest, for unofficial attire only, to be manufactured in Wyoming, and with all income, marketing, and distribution to be handled by the National FFA Supply Service;
2. Pierced earrings with gold emblem stud and/or blue backing with emblem;
3. Corduroy FFA Official Jacket with attachments for chain placement and adjustments to avoid zipper showing;
4. Box to display medals;
5. FFA socks and scarf;
6. FFA stadium seats;
7. FFA long underwear;
8. 100 percent cotton T-shirts;
9. More durable briefcases with possible price around \$50.00 each.

We suggest the following for improving catalog layout:
1. Highlight various categories on film page;
2. Place letters beside all items displayed in catalog.
We suggest discontinuing the SOE cap.

We recommend the supply service investigate more efficient methods of operating the sales booth to avoid confusion or long waits for service.
We encourage chapters to purchase from the supply service. We request that all state officers and others associated with the FFA strive at all times to promote the purchase of items from the supply service.

We recommend that the watercraft scarf be designated as official dress.
We recommend that a revised version of retiring officer plaques be offered for sale.

We believe these recommendations are in the best interests for our organization in providing quality products. Our thanks to Dennis Shafer and Debbie Quigley for their unmeasurable guidance and assistance in these decisions.

Respectfully submitted,
Shawn Oliver, MS (C)
Ruby Williams, TN (CC)
Donna Bishop, MA (S)
Brian Van Bergen OR
J. D. Baser Jr., WA
Todd Lighthall, NY
Patrick Surell, NH



Business

Committee Reports

National Information Service

After analyzing the programs of the National FFA Information Service, we believe our primary concern should be external public relations and we make the following recommendations for the improvement of the information services of the FFA.

1. In developing advertisements and public service announcements, we encourage the incorporation of females and minorities into these advertisements. We also encourage the use of the new FFA posters illustrating this diversity.

2. Improve direct communication with state officers by providing a list of all information and instructional material sent to individual chapters and providing a newsletter specifically for state officers highlighting the activities and opportunities available.

3. Produce a short FFA activities preview to be added before appropriate home video rentals.

4. Provide promotional materials that emphasize involvement with other youth and civic organizations on contemporary issues.

5. Establish a State Reporters Conference providing insight concerning the responsibilities that their position entails (possibly in conjunction with State Presidents Conference).

6. Improve the quality of the national convention videos available through the supply service.

7. Provide a list of those sponsors who provided funds for promotional materials in order that members at the state and chapter levels may write notes of thanks.

We thank the staff of Information Services: Bill Stagg, director and Jeri Matrics, program coordinator, for their hard work during the national FFA convention as well as for the many programs implemented by the National Information Service throughout the past year. We hope that these recommendations will be strongly considered by the National Information Service and encourage them to keep up the excellent work.

Respectfully submitted,
Dean Von Bank, MN (C)
George Ulmer, SC (CC)
Sherri Foster, RI
Robert Cervaix, VT
Keith Reep, TX
Bobbi Jo Owen, WI
Mindy Stringer, AL (S)

National Leadership Conferences

We submit the following recommendations.

Washington Conference Program

1. Set up appointments for congressional visits and allow a representative from Congress to speak to the WCP.
2. Provide a tour guide to all monument stops; recognize George Washington for his contributions to our organization while members are touring Mount Vernon; and set aside one day to tour Washington, D.C. to foster patriotism.

3. Schedule registration earlier so that more activities may be conducted on Monday.

4. Require a national officer to be present on Monday and Friday of each conference or the entire week if possible.

5. Include inside show a posed shot of each member or state group present; give members the option to purchase slides or video of the slides, and use only current week's slides.

6. Consider the following areas for workshops: teamwork and cooperation; public relations; interview skills; proper application of developed roles.

7. Devote more workshop time to FFA and careers.

8. Allow more time to tour the National FFA Center.

Made for Excellence

1. Continue expansion of the program to new states.

2. Begin registration earlier to lengthen the workshops.

State Presidents' Conference

1. Include more leadership development activities, preparation for the state officer term and preparation for the National Convention.

2. Schedule both WCP staff and national officers to share activities and responsibilities.

3. Organize congressional visits.

4. Increase time at National FFA Center.

5. Visit the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

6. Provide opportunity for each individual to choose tour stops of Washington, D.C.

7. Exchange unique state ideas.

We commend the FFA staff for the new marketing strategies: videotapes for WCP and pamphlets for the Made for Excellence Program. We would also like to commend the national officers, the WCP staff, and the MFE staff for their work.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Knutson, MT (C)
Rene J. Roberts, AR (CC)
Scott Dunn, IN (S)
Brett Richmond, WY
Jackie McClaskey, KS
Jon VanDyke, IL
David Massey, NM
Marshall Stewart,
Consultant

National Leadership Conferences for State Officers

We compliment the national officers and the national staff for conducting successful and efficient National Leadership Conferences for State Officers (NLCOS). Some suggestions are as follows:

1. Expert state and area should have an NLCOS that is adapted to their area. This may mean more work for the national officers, but it is necessary and could be accomplished by their meeting with the state coordinator two months before the conference.

2. Communication is vital to the effectiveness of a state officer. Require a prepared speech, mock interviews with use of video and/or audio recorders, extemporaneous speaking, and attendance by speech and media specialists.

3. Allow more time for discussion and debate of FFA and agricultural topics, such as constitutional amendments.

4. Allow more time for state officer teams to meet for the following purposes: formulate mission statements (game plans) of officer teams; goal planning for both teams and individuals; opportunity for individuals to evaluate the benefits that they can bring to their teams; complimenting fellow officers; building team unity; and constructive criticism.

5. Emphasize preparation for chapter visits. National officers need to give mock presentations and other activities to the participants, states should give their own presentations and at the end of the conference, schedule a critique of both the national and state officers.

6. Hold a dance as this is a time of fun, sharing, and a time to get to know other state officers.

7. The national officers did not have ample time to spend with themselves and with state officers other than in sessions.

With the help of consultants, state advisors, and executive secretaries, this problem can be avoided.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gennie Lou Capps, SC (C)
Eric Thurber, NE (CC)
Michelle Waage, WI
Roland Furnasi, CA
Jody Adams, LA
Shad Sorenson, UT
Ray Mancil, GA
Darla Broadwater, MA
Rich Katt, NE, Consultant

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie Sheridan, OH (C)
Tom Nugent, MI (CC)
Dan Berg, NJ
Christopher Coutu, CT
James McLamb, NC
Mike Thomsen, UT
Janet Wedman, OK
Kris Williams, MN

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David Massey, NM
Marshall Stewart,
Consultant

National Organizational Development

We propose the following recommendations.

Agricultural Marketing and Agriscience Programs

Appoint a committee composed of representatives from the board of directors,

staff, U. S. Department of Education, U. S. Department of Agriculture, National Vocational Agriculture Teachers' Association and consultants from the agriscience and agriscience fields to research and develop agricultural marketing and agriscience programs. With the results of this research, contests on a state and national level as well as new proficiency areas, should be created. A report from this committee on its findings shall be given at the July, 1989, meeting of the board of directors.

Expansion of the Organization

Investigate the feasibility of expanding agricultural education programs into suburban and urban high schools with an emphasis on modernized agriculture and career opportunities. The purpose of this investigation is development of agricultural and FFA awareness throughout the nation.

Agriscience Contests

Develop more leadership contests dealing with agriscience, such as agricultural sales and job interview.

Modernization of Contests

Update and modernize existing contests and award programs with new technological developments of that area of the agricultural industry.

Improvement of agricultural literacy

Agricultural illiteracy is a serious concern facing our organization. Therefore, we agree with the National Academy of Science's Report stating: "Beginning in kindergarten and continuing through twelfth grade, all students should receive some systematic instruction about agriculture." We can incorporate this recommendation by emphasizing already existing programs, such as Food For America and Agriculture in the Classroom.

These issues are only a small part of many critical issues facing our organization. However, we feel we are taking a major step towards the enhancement and improvement of our national organization.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Sheridan, OH (C)
Tom Nugent, MI (CC)
Dan Berg, NJ
Christopher Coutu, CT
James McLamb, NC
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Kris Williams, MN

Program of Activities

The members of the Program of Activities committee have analyzed FFA's national program of activities and submit the following recommendations.

1. Continue efforts to strengthen ties with areas out of the continental United States.

2. Encourage the FFA to study the establishment of agriscience, agrisciences (research and technology), sales and service, and job interview-type contests not directly related to production agriculture.

3. The National FFA Board of Directors and staff establish criteria for national parliamentary procedure and demonstration contests.

4. Encourage agriculture teachers to rename and/or restructure traditional agriculture classes to appeal to students, if necessary.

5. Establish an interstate FFA exchange program similar to WEA for exchange and work experience among FFA members within the United States.

6. Revise Article IV, Section VIII of the National Program of Activities regarding the American Royal Queen to conform to the American Royal Ambassador Program.

7. Update the Program of Activities to comply with any changes to the National FFA Constitution.

8. Supply delegate committee members with a report on the action taken regarding the previous year's committee recommendations.

We commend the National FFA staff for keeping this document orderly and up to date.

Respectfully submitted,
Brent Newbanks, CO (C)
Shane Goettle, ND (CC)
Glen Alan Phillips, TX
Carrie Wilson, AK (S)
Kelvin Whitaker, AL
Michael Walton, LA
Scott Ruby, OR
Heather Dunham, NC
Stacey Achorn, RI

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Heather Dunham, NC
Stacey Achorn, RI

Respectfully submitted,
Brent Newbanks, CO (C)
Shane Goettle, ND (CC)
Glen Alan Phillips, TX
Carrie Wilson, AK (S)
Kelvin Whitaker, AL
Michael Walton, LA
Scott Ruby, OR
Heather Dunham, NC
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Stacey Achorn, RI

Committee Reports

National Convention Committee

As members of the National Convention Committee, we extend our warmest thanks to those who have made the 61st National Convention a milestone in the history of this organization: the national officer team, Kelli Evans, Kevin Ochsenr, Terri Hames, Bill Hollis, Mickey McCall, Dunn LeDoux; Dr. Early Case, Coleman Harris, David Miller, Tony Hoyt, and other members of the National FFA staff. The entertaining speakers and performers for our convention which include Denis Waitley, Gretchen Carlson, Dr. Bonnie Guiton, Ron Wilson, Craig Patterson, Joseph Downey, Kevin Davis, Tom Schlesinger, John Block, The Moody Brothers and the Platters, Lowell Gattlett, Dr. Earl Butz, Michael Browne, Jerry Clower, and Eddie Rabbit. We would also like to thank all of the convention managers, convention sponsors, those conducting the leadership workshops, Gary Maricle, talent director Roger Heath, and Gary Meador conducting the FFA band, Stan Kingma in directing the chorus, the National FFA Foundation staff, Sponsors' Board Executive Council, Rick Metzger and the National FFA Alumni officers, council and staff. The judges and timekeepers of the various contests, courtesy corps, George Verzagt and the 198 participants in the career show, the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce for supporting the educational tours, Richard Berkley, the mayor of Kansas City, The American Royal, the media, and the continuing support of the new and present sponsors of the National FFA Foundation.

The following recommendations have been developed by the National Convention Committee for the 61st National FFA Convention.

1. We recommend that the sound system on the convention floor be thoroughly checked before each convention session and also that more microphones be placed around the delegate floor during the business sessions.
2. We commend the RFD-TV for over 17 hours of convention coverage for publication and promotion of the FFA throughout America.
3. We suggest that consideration be given to improving accuracy and consistency in the printing of the FFA Convention Program.
4. We feel that the use of all spotlights would enhance opening ceremonies, massing of the state flags, and the grand entry of the band.
5. We greatly appreciate the correct attitude of the delegate body during the history making business sessions of the 61st National FFA Convention.
6. We commend the na-

Nominating Committee

We, the Nominating Committee, have given careful and deliberate consideration to all applicants running for national office. The committee nominates the following slate of candidates to the delegates of the 61st National FFA Convention to serve as national officers for the year 1988-89.

President, Dana Soukup, Spencer, Nebraska
Secretary, Jeffrey Johnson, Dover, Florida
Central Region Vice President, Brad Chambliss, Hardinsburg, Kentucky
Eastern Region Vice President, Warren Boerger, Irwin, Ohio
Southern Region Vice President, Jay Hamby, Benton, Tennessee
Western Region Vice President, Jeffrey Isom, Fruitland, Idaho
National Treasurer, David Miller
National Executive Secretary, C. Coleman Harris
National Advisor, Larry D. Case

Respectfully submitted,
Christine A. Henning (Chairman)
Donnel Brown (Co-Chairman)
Sara L. Houghton
Tom Lila
Shane Black
Linwood Winslow
Scott Lilly
Corey B. Torrance
Stewart Humphrey
Eldon E. Witt (Consultant)
Arnold B. Cordes (Consultant)
Rosco Vaughn (Consultant)

tional officers for developing a Vespers Program with an emphasis on involving the entire audience.

7. We feel the national officers have instilled in us the principles that every FFA member believes—those being citizenship, cooperation, and patriotism. We commend the convention planners for the prominent display of the magnificent flag draped from the convention ceiling.

We would especially like to thank Dr. Duane Nielsen for taking the responsibility of serving as the committee consultant and also for taking the time to become a friend to each of us.

In closing, we wish the 1988-89 National Officers success in keeping the FFA on the Leading Edge of Agriculture.

Respectfully submitted:
Susan Watkins, MS (C)
Randy Boudin, NM (CC)
Gary Alday, NV (S)
Brent Grass, ME
Glen Waters, MO
Grisselle Geremia, PR
Amy Pease, VT
Consultant - Duane Nielsen

National FFA Adult Leadership

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Donald L. Michael, *State Supervisor*, Agricultural Education, Bureau of Vocational-Technical & Adult Education, Charleston, WV

Consultants
Carroll L. Shry, *President*, NVATA, Woodsboro, MD
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Jeffrey W. Moss, *Assistant Professor*, Agricultural & International Education, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

Carl L. Reynolds, *Associate Professor*, Agricultural Education, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

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Donald L. Michael, *State Supervisor*, Agricultural Education, Bureau of Vocational-Technical Education, Charleston, WV
John Denmark, *State Program Director*, Agriculture and Natural Resources Education, State Department of Education, Tallahassee, FL
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Jeffrey W. Moss, *Assistant Professor*, Agricultural Education, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
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Randy Trivette, *State FFA Executive Secretary*, Virginia Association, FFA, Richmond, VA

Kelli Evans, *National FFA President*, Lincoln, NE

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Douglas E. Butler, *Regional Director (Corporate Support-Southwest)*

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61st National FFA Convention
Proceedings is published by the National FFA Organization as a record of the organization's annual convention held in Kansas City, Missouri, November 10-12, 1988.
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FFA Snapshots

"The constitutional amendments are an attempt to shift the FFA from a production to an agricultural program, to broaden our spectrum to include more students. The net effects will be an improved public image and an increase in the number of students."

Their implementation will be more clearly defined after the board meeting in January. The emblem will be the hardest change to manage since dies must be recast to produce medals and awards. The entire transition will be quite expensive.

People must remember that the changes were adopted by over a two-thirds majority vote. This is a strong signal that most of the country was ready for a change."



Larry D. Case
National FFA Advisor
Washington, D.C.

Don't Forget

to say thanks! FFA members, write a note of appreciation to the National FFA Foundation sponsor of any activity in which you take part. They made an investment in you. Show them your appreciation. Don't know the sponsor's address? Send your letter in care of: The National FFA Foundation, 310 North Midvale Blvd., P.O. Box 5117, Madison, WI 53705.



FFA visitors grab a bite at the "Golden Arches." (Photo by Orten Wagner)

LeDoux

Continued from Page 20

ordinary people like you and me, who hang in there long enough to do extraordinary things and become champions.

This auditorium is filled with champions. But in many cases the champion is hidden. It may be a champion public speaker, a champion agriculturalist, or a champion farm business manager, but all champions just waiting to get out!

Believe in yourself. You are a champion. Believe in yourself even if no one else does. Where would we be today? Albert Einstein had listened to his teachers who said he had a learning disability? Where would we be today if Alexander Graham Bell or the Wright brothers hadn't believed in themselves when no one else did? Those champions believed in themselves and their ideas. They kept on keepin' on!

You, too, are a champion. I've traveled across our great nation and seen thousands of champions. I see thousands now. The Lord created you to be a success—a shining success—believe in yourself. Keep on keepin' on!

This year the FFA have taught me an appreciation of life. I can remember the first time I took to the national convention. Most people say that they remember it because of the sea of blue and gold jackets or because it was their first plane ride. I remember it because I got homesick. I was 13 years old and I wanted to go home to see my Mom and Dad. I wanted to be awakened with a smile and the smell of breakfast and not a computer saying "This is your wake-up call." It was the little things I missed.

Now that we are all away from home here in Kansas City—think with me—what is it that you miss most about home? Is it your family? Is it your dog? Maybe you miss being able to go out in the afternoon and feed the animals or water your plants.

It is blessing for all of us to have the opportunity to travel away from home because it is when we realize all of the little things that make it so special. This year has taught me to appreciate life. We begin to take for granted all that our parents and families do for us. Thanks for all that in Louisiana, we have made me what I am. Thanks to the five inspirational officers who are the national and

good friends. Thanks! It is being away from home that makes us realize how lucky we are. I challenge you to realize the little things when you are home. We need not be in a faraway place to appreciate what we have. Every morning when you wake up, thank God for all of your blessings and those who love you.

This year I have been truly blessed. To gain a year as a national officer is a dream come true. Keep your dreams alive. You will be a shining success—just keep on keepin' on!

McCall

Continued from Page 20

parents and others that I came in contact with and how they affected me. I came to the conclusion that a well-known phrase applies: "Actions speak louder than words."

I found that people can have a tremendous impact simply by the way they conduct themselves. I found that the most important thing about a person isn't an office or title, but sincerity, honesty and commitment to the things they believe in. My friends, as you go through life, many times people will look to you when you don't realize it. They will scrutinize your every move as an example of what they should do. They may be a brother or sister, a younger member, a peer, or just a passing stranger. I think we all look to certain things and people in life for simply what they represent and what they stand for.

Today, on the North Carolina coastline, stands a towering symbol that many people have looked to for decades. The Cape Hatteras Lighthouse has guided sailors and merchants through the treacherous North Carolina coastal waters ever since its original construction in 1802. It stands guard over a dangerous area of shipping lanes where two major ocean currents collide, forming extremely turbulent water and earning the name, "The Graveyard of the Atlantic." The lighthouse stands at 208 feet, taller than any other in the United States, and can be seen at night over 50 miles away.

The Cape Hatteras Lighthouse has withstood many challenges over the years. It has survived countless hurricanes and storms, weathering the high winds and pounding waves. It was almost destroyed

Satellite Broadcasts Coverage At Home

Satellite television coverage by RFD/TV added a special dimension to the convention, taking the coverage of the FFA starts to the heavens and back into classrooms and living rooms at home.

The second year of unscrubbed broadcasts aired in a "mini-political convention" format from an anchor desk in Municipal Auditorium.

"Our main concern is to inform people that FFA is a valuable organization, valuable to the future," said Mark Dyas, field producer and director for RFD/TV. "Seventy percent of our audience is rural, but we're also concerned about telling the non-agricultural audience about the FFA's value."

RFD/TV carried 17.5 hours of coverage, including national officer retiring addresses and prerecorded biogra-

phies, prepared and extemporaneous public speaking finals and award presentations, as well as remotes from judging contests and the Agricultural Career Show.

"The television media is a step forward for the FFA," said David Pearce, FFA news anchor for the convention and former national FFA officer. "As it goes to large audiences, FFA is bracing for the future."

"We take the convention home to people, so we don't have just one audience of 23,000 in Kansas City, but hundreds of thousands across the country."

Advertising sponsors for the convention coverage were: Chevrolet Motor Division/Trucks/General Motors Corp.; Dow Chemical Company; John Deere; Valmont Irrigation Systems; and Rural TV.

100% Plus Membership Program

Ten states were recognized for their outstanding membership efforts. 100% Plus states are those in which all students of high school age are FFA members as originally intended by the organization's founders.

Connecticut
Kansas
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota

Ohio
Oklahoma
West Virginia
Wisconsin

by both sides during the bloody Civil War and it witnessed the sinking of American ships by German submarines during World War II. Most recently, the threat of beach erosion has jeopardized the fate of the lighthouse, and modern technology today has rendered it useless for many of its original purposes. Yet for many years, countless people relied on those brilliant white flashes atop the black and white brick structure. The Cape Hatteras Lighthouse did its job. It represented a safe passageway, it stood for strength, security, and steadfastness. It wasn't just a warning, but a welcome sentinel of the coastline. It stood as a symbol of consistency, weathering time and the elements, and yet continually shining a light, casting a beam, a beacon in the night.

As a young child, I often wondered what it would be like to be on a ship off the coast in a thick, dense fog—uncertain of the future, uncertain of where I was, and then to suddenly come upon this brilliant beacon, like a ray of hope. Then I would realize exactly where I was and where I was going.

As many people in the agricultural industry seem to be in a dense, thick fog. They're not sure of the future, of where they are or where they are going. Yet, over the past year, I have met some of the beacons who will lead our industry and our nation into the 21st century. I've seen brilliant flashes and towering accomplishments. I've met people, both young and old, who have weathered many storms and now are symbols of strength, security and steadfastness. They are the true symbols I have met. They are living beacons.

Such instances of courage are rare today. Or are they? Many times this year people taught me about such courage and character. People who, without praise or glory, lived their lives with spirit, enthusiasm and energy. They were FFA members just like you and me. They were the ones who, without countless others who went through your day-to-day lives affecting and influencing so many people simply by the way you conducted yourself, by what you represented and by what you believed in.

Five of the greatest influences on my year were the five fellow officers whom I had the pleasure of working with. They are five of the best living examples I've ever come in contact with. They have paid the ultimate compliment back in July after our State Presidents' Conference in Wash-

ington, D.C., when a state officer came to me and said, "Mickey, you and your fellow officers showed us what we can accomplish if we work as a team." A team indeed.

A former fellow state officer back in North Carolina used to say that a good friend never gets in the way, unless you're on the way down. This year I've had five of the greatest friends a guy could ever hope for. Dunn LeDoux, you taught us that along the journey of life, we need to be sure to enjoy the little things along the way that make it so special. Trent Hames, your spirit and energy could brighten the gloomiest day and your steadfastness set an example for us all. I have met very few people in life who emit the professionalism of Kevin Ochsner. Kevin, you are a tremendous influence on everyone you meet. Kelli Evans, because of your outgoing personality and dedication, you taught us the importance of touching peoples' lives, one person at a time. Bill Hollis, you imbedded in us all our appreciation for teamwork and what we could accomplish if we simply worked as one.

"I'll never forget when we first became a team this year. I was down here with our hands pinned high in the air, unified as one. I'll also never forget when, less than 24 hours later, we wept and mourned as one over the tragedy in Denver.

So many people have contributed and helped me this year, from my fellow officers, national center staff, numerous friends back in North Carolina, my parents and many of you. You have truly shown me the definition of a living example and I have looked to you many times this year for strength and encouragement from the sands of Myrtle Beach to the big sky of Montana.

My friends, just as sailors look to a lighthouse and players look to a coach, America looks to us for the future. For the future of not only agriculture but our country as a whole.

*I made my mark in life
And yet felt very proud
That the deed, and not the face
Stood out boldly in the crowd.*

*When my final verse is written
May it reveal my zest for sharing
And plainly say "I truly lived."
The difference between knowing and caring.*

May God bless you all.

1988-89 National FFA Officers

Dana Soukup, a 20-year-old from Spencer, Neb., was elected national FFA president. His local advisor is Russell Lechtenberg. Soukup, the son of David and Linda Soukup, is a member of the Spencer FFA Chapter.

Before being elected national president he served as state president, chapter president, secretary and treasurer. He participated in leadership workshops, public speaking and judging contests and received a silver rating in the National FFA Livestock Judging Contest.

Soukup's Supervised Agricultural Experience program includes sheep, beef and swine production. He also worked for a market, for local farmers and as a park caretaker. He was recently employed by the Nebraska Department of Agricultural Education as a leadership assistant.

Soukup, a sophomore majoring in agribusiness, will take a one-year leave from the University of Nebraska—Lincoln to fulfill his duties. He plans a career in agribusiness upon graduation.



Dana Soukup
RR 1, Box 51A
Spencer, NE 68777
(402) 589-1115



Brad Chambliss
Route 1
Hardinsburg, KY 40143
(502) 756-2811

Brad Chambliss, a 20-year-old from Hardinsburg, Ky., was elected national FFA vice president for the central region. His local advisors are Pat Henderson and Leon Smiley. Chambliss, the son of Robert and Janet Chambliss, is a member of the Breckinridge County FFA Chapter.

Chambliss previously served as president of his chapter, region and state FFA organizations. He was runner-up in the state public speaking contest and a member of two state-winning chapter meeting teams.

Chambliss' Supervised Agricultural Experience program includes corn, hay, tobacco and soybeans as well as Hereford cattle and Suffolk sheep. He received three state proficiency awards and was named national winner in diversified livestock production.

Chambliss will take a one-year leave of absence from the University of Kentucky in Lexington where he is a junior in pre-veterinary medicine. After graduation, he hopes to establish a veterinary practice.

Jeff Johnson, a 19-year-old from Dover, Fla., was elected national FFA secretary. His local advisors are Donald Vaughan and Jane Bender. Johnson, the son of Wayne and Laura Johnson, is a member of the Plant City City FFA Chapter.

In Florida, Johnson served as state president after serving as district president and chapter vice president. In 1987 he was the southern region FFA Prepared Public Speaking Contest winner as well as state winner in the Nursery Operations proficiency award area. He was also a member of state-winning parliamentary procedure, forestry and horticulture teams and was named Florida's Outstanding FFA Member.

Johnson's Supervised Agricultural Experience program included swine, commercial steers and nursery plant production.

A sophomore majoring in agricultural economics at the University of Florida, Johnson will take a one-year leave of absence to fulfill his duties. He plans a career in agribusiness economics and marketing.



Jeff Johnson
Route 2, Box 338
Dover, FL 33527
(615) 659-0829



Jaye Hamby
Benton Station Road
Benton, TN 37807
(615) 338-8003

Jaye Hamby, a 20-year-old from Benton, Tenn., was elected national FFA vice president for the southern region. His local advisor is Clayton Swartout. Hamby, the son of Billie Hamby, is a member of the Polk FFA Chapter.

Before being elected national vice president, he served as state president as well as president and vice president in both his district and chapter. He participated in extemporaneous public speaking at the local, state and national levels and received a national gold emblem in the livestock judging contest.

Hamby's Supervised Agricultural Experience program includes 23 head of purebred sheep and 21 acres of pasture and hay. He also worked at the U.S. Forest Service in forest and wildlife management and is employed by Conasauga River Lumber Company.

Hamby will take a one-year leave of absence from the University of Tennessee where he is majoring in agricultural education, with minors in animal science and forestry. He plans to teach high school agriculture and to farm part-time.

Warren Boerger, a 20-year-old from Irwin, Ohio, was elected national FFA vice president for the eastern region. His local advisor is William Conklin. Boerger, the son of Marvin and Karen Boerger, is a member of the Fairbanks FFA Chapter.

Before being elected state president, he served as state treasurer, chapter president, treasurer and assistant treasurer. He participated in extemporaneous public speaking, parliamentary procedure and a variety of judging contests.

Boerger's Supervised Agricultural Experience program includes dairy cattle, swine, corn, hay and soybean production. In addition, Boerger has worked at Ohio's state FFA camp, state FFA center and with an agricultural business.

Boerger will take a one-year leave of absence from Ohio State University where he is a junior with a dual major in agricultural education and agricultural economics. He plans to achieve his doctorate in agricultural education and to enter a career in agribusiness or the teaching profession.



Warren Boerger
800 Rosedale Road
Irwin, OH 43069
(614) 857-1632



Jeffrey Isom
P.O. Box 455
Fruitland, ID 83619
(208) 452-3758

Jeffrey Isom, a 19-year-old from Fruitland, Idaho, was elected national FFA vice president for the western region. His local advisor is Dwayne Tescholdick. Isom, the son of Waldon and Patricia Isom, is a member of the Fruitland FFA Chapter.

Before being elected national vice president, he served as state and district president and held chapter offices. He was the western region winner of both prepared and extemporaneous public speaking contests and won state awards in creed speaking and parliamentary procedure. He was also on a gold award team in the National Farm Business Management contest.

Isom's Supervised Agricultural Experience program includes Hereford cattle, alfalfa hay and pasture production.

Isom will take a one-year leave of absence from Brigham Young University where he is majoring in international relations. Upon completion of college, he plans to work as an international trade relations specialist.

National Officer Candidates

National officer candidate reception sponsored by Mobay Corporation, Agricultural Chemicals Division

Thirty-seven national officer candidates came to Kansas City to throw their hats into the ring for six available student officer positions. An intensive interview process followed, consisting of a written quiz, questioning and impromptu speeches.

"There are no losers. We all go away with something wonderful because of the experience we'll carry with us for a lifetime," said Ricky Warren, candidate

from North Carolina. "Preparing to be a national officer candidate is a growing experience, because the process is more difficult than most people can imagine."

By Friday night the nominating committee had made their choices, and on Saturday afternoon, a new slate of student and adult officers were nominated, elected and installed before the convention's close.

ARIZONA: Michael David Armbruster, Tucson
ARKANSAS: Morris G. Nutt, Bono
CALIFORNIA: Dennis Albani, Elk Grove
CONNECTICUT: Robin E. Burns, Andover
FLORIDA: Jeffrey Wayne Johnson, Dover
GEORGIA: Shalley Nottingham, Monroe

IDAHO: Jeffrey Kirk Isom, Fruitland
ILLINOIS: Alvie McCormick, Oak
INDIANA: Matthew Alan Rekeveng, Woodburn
IOWA: Robert A. Hanson, Castana
KANSAS: Justin McKee, Edna
KENTUCKY: Brad Chambliss, Hardinsburg
LOUISIANA: Chris Reeves, Jennings
MARYLAND: Diana Lynn Gates, Thurmont
MASSACHUSETTS: Jeffrey B. LaFleur, Taunton
MICHIGAN: Charles Edward Scovill, Fenville
MISSISSIPPI: James Fitzgerald McDonald, Mendenhall
MISSOURI: Brian Keith Mulnix, Ridgeway
MONTANA: Michael Milmine, Miles City
NEBRASKA: Dana M. Soukup, Spencer
NEVADA: Lincoln D. Dahl, Oesh

NEW MEXICO: Marvin Pounds, Corona
NEW YORK: Cherie Lynn Engelbrecht, Madison
NORTH CAROLINA: Ricky J. Warren, Clinton
OHIO: Warren L. Boerger, Irwin
OKLAHOMA: Shane A. Stewart, Stillwater
OREGON: Eric Coppock, Adams
SOUTH CAROLINA: Melissa Lynn Tyler, Loris
SOUTH DAKOTA: Joan Diane Noid, Gettysburg
TENNESSEE: Jaye L. Hamby, Benton
TEXAS: Toby Miller, Silverton
UTAH: William Ralph Perkins, Panguitch
VERMONT: Rene Blaise Roy, West Charleston
VIRGINIA: John Allan Cash, Afon
WASHINGTON: Charles Oliver Estes, Startup
WISCONSIN: Lisa Marie Mullen, Bloomer
WYOMING: Cody Stewart, Douglas